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Pact Disarmament Committee Session Opens

LD021553 Warsaw PAP in English
1517 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2—The Special Disarmament Commission of the Warsaw treaty member-states started its first session here today at the level of foreign vice-ministers. Representatives of the foreign and defence ministries are also taking part.

The session was opened by Poland's vice-minister of foreign affairs, General Secretary of the Warsaw Treaty Political Consultative Committee Henryk Jaroszek.

CW Talks Continue Between GDR, FRG

AU011546 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
29 Jan 88 p 1

[CTK report: "Trilateral Negotiations on Chemical Weapons"]

[Text] Geneva—Further trilateral negotiations on chemical weapons were conducted between CSSR, GDR, and FRG representatives in Geneva on Wednesday [27 January].

The ambassadors of the three countries discussed with experts certain issues that are still open concerning the global ban on chemical weapons that is currently under preparation. They also devoted their attention to the establishment of a chemical-weapon-free zone in central Europe, as proposed by the CPCZ, SED, and SPD.

Briefs

Transportation Conference

The annual transportation conference of representatives from the spheres of transportation and foreign trade in the GDR, USSR, and Poland was concluded in Fincken, Roebel Kreis, on Thursday 28 January. The GDR delegation was headed by Deputy Transport Minister Heinz Gerber. The discussions focused on ensuring the transportation of foreign trade goods between the GDR and USSR through border-crossing rail transportation via the PPR and through direct railroad-ferry transportation. In this connection, the transportation volume of foreign trade goods was coordinated between the three states. [Summary] [*East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 29 Jan 88 p 2 AU*]

CSSR's Chnoupek at Disarmament Conference

LD021840 Prague CTK in English
1719 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Geneva Feb 2 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek said at the disarmament conference in Geneva today that, "thanks to its unique mandate as the main negotiating body of the international community in the field of disarmament, it is highly called to bridge the existing gap between declarations and deeds".

The minister reiterated the Warsaw treaty states' proposal to change the conference into a permanent universal body for disarmament negotiations working all the year round and voiced concern that discussions of the program of universal disarmament at the conference have not yet produced results.

Speaking at the opening meeting the minister noted that the conference's spring session was taking place in the historic period of first steps towards fulfilling the concept of a world without nuclear weapons, proposed by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev two years ago. The course of the session will be a key to success of the 3rd special United Nations session on disarmament next June. "This is why we must exert qualitatively new effort at the conference on disarmament in Geneva to reach concrete agreements", Bohuslav Chnoupek stated.

The minister characterized initiatives seeking greater productiveness of the conference, which were formulated by the Foreign Ministers' Committee of the Warsaw treaty member states at their session in Prague at the end of last October. He particularly underscored the proposal to turn the conference into a permanent universal body of disarmament negotiations working throughout the year, a body open to new members and its activity linked to the work of other disarmament forums within the U.N. system as well as to bilateral negotiations. In important periods, the Warsaw treaty states propose, it would be useful to hold conference sessions at the level of foreign ministers.

A treaty on a ban on and liquidation of chemical weapons and their production base is now "virtually within reach" of the conference. It can be finalized within a short time, in the first phase of this year's session, naturally provided there is political will and concerted effort in the negotiations fully aimed at the approval of the remaining approximately 10 per cent of the text. However, "we are seriously concerned at phenomena aimed in the opposite direction", Bohuslav Chnoupek said.

The minister described completion of an efficient mechanism of inspections at a request, without the right to refuse such inspections, and a system of regular checkups on the chemical industry as urgent tasks. He mentioned the Czechoslovak and GDR proposal to create a zone free of chemical weapons in central Europe and said Czechoslovakia "does not regard it as a step outside the effort to achieve a world-wide ban on these weapons".

The minister said the conference must be focused much more on the full complex of nuclear disarmament.

He said major tasks of this year's session were primarily a complete and general ban on nuclear weapons tests and the system of checking upon compliance with the ban, the problems of averting an arms race in outer space, namely a ban on anti-missile weapons, ensuring inviolability of artificial satellites and others. "We want to believe that in harmony with the practically unanimous demand for activating the talks it will be possible to extend the mandate of the respective working committee of the conference", the foreign minister said.

He emphasized Czechoslovakia's "lasting support for the project of the universal program of disarmament" and expressed "concern that its discussion by the conference has not so far produced results". Bohuslav Chnoupek also reaffirmed Czechoslovakia's "resolve to strive for the extension of the process of disarmament also to the sphere of conventional weapons and armed forces", the foreign minister stated.

Lists of BCP Conference Presidium and Organs

AU011423 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 29 Jan 88 p 2

["List of Members of the BCP National Conference Business Presidium and Auxiliary Organs," elected at the first session of the BCP National Conference on 28 January]

[Text]

Business Presidium

Albena Yotova	Dimitur Stanishev	Matey Mateev
Angel Dimitrov	Dimitur Stoyanov	Milko Balev
Andrey Bundzhulov	Dobri Dzhurov	Mitko Mitkov
Andrey Lukanov	Evgeniya Georgieva	Nacho Papazov
Atanas Atanasov	Elena Lagadinova	Nikola Todoriev
Atanas Konstantinov	Elena Shiekova	Nikolay Yovchev
Bogomil Kirilov	Elka Stefcheva	Ognyan Doynov
Vasil Bukureshtliev	Emil Khristov	Pavel Dimitrov
Vasil Mikhaylov	Zhelyo Dobrev	Pencho Kubadinski
Vasil Tsanov	Zhivko Topalov	Petko Filipov
Vasil Tsanov Ivanov	Zakharin Penov	Petko Tsolov
Vasilka Ruseva	Zlatka Aleksandrova	Petur Dyulgerov
Veselina Khristova	Ivaylo Slavov	Petur Mladenov
Videlina Alavoydova	Ivan Velinov	Plamen Vachkov
Vinka Ivanova	Ivan Panev	Radoslav Radev
Vladimir Bonev	Ivan Stanev	Roza Krusteva
Georgi Atanasov	Ivan Trenchov	Snezhana Todorova
Georgi Grigorov	Ivanka Georgieva	Stanko Todorov
Georgi Dzhagarov	Ivanka Pashova	Stefka Stoyanova
Georgi Yordanov	Yordan Yotov	Stoyan Dimitrov
Georgi Karabashev	Yordan Katrandzhiev	Stoyan Karadzhov
Georgi Kostov	Kalin Dimitrov	Stoyan Markov
Georgi Robev	Kiril Kalyonski	Stoyan Mikhaylov
Georgi Tanev	Kiro Kostov	Stoyan Ovcharov
Gospodin Yordanov	Kolyo Siderov	Stoyanka Krustenova
Grigor Stoichkov	Konstantin Andreev	Todor Zhivkov
Grisha Filipov	Kostadin Ovcharov	Todorka Stoyanova
Denka Petrova	Lidiya Milenova	Trifon Pashov
Deshka Kazakova	Lyubomir Levchev	Khristina Ivanova
Dimitur Angelov	Lyubomir Memov	Khristo Neykov
Dimitur Dimitrov	Lyudmil Staykov	Tsola Dragoycheva
Dimitur Dimitrov	Maksim Paskalev	Chudomir Aleksandrov
Dimitur Dimitrov	Marin Kolarov	Yaroslav Radev
[3 names Dimitrov as published]		
Dimitur Yonchev	Mariya Dyanova	

Secretariat

Prodan Stoyanov—leader	Stefan Vuchkov
Zhaneta Stoykova	Todor Kyurkchiev
Konstantin Atanasov	Yuliya Pirinska

Secretariat

Prodan Stoyanov—leader	Stefan Vuchkov
Zhaneta Stoykova	Todor Kyurkchiev
Kostadin Ivanov	Yancho Georgiev
Mincho Chuntov	

Editorial Commission

Radoslav Radev—chairman	Yoto Krustev
Boyan Traykov	Lyubomir Pavlov
Valentin Karamanchev	Petur Peykov
Vasil Momov	

Mandate Commission

Georgi Vanev—chairman	Nartsis Zlatanov
Aleksandur Karaivanov	Nedyalka Lacheva
Vasil Zanchev	Nedyalko Yordanov
Vasil Zlatev	Nenko Spasov
Velko Palin	Nikolay Krustev
Veselin Andreev	Nikolina Balinova
Vidka Gencheva	Panteley Pachov
Georgi Ilchev	Penka Dodunekova
Dimitur Antonov	Petur Petrov
Doncho Donchev	Rosen Rusev
Zdravko Trichkov	Siyka Petkova
Zlatka Ruseva	Stamo Kerezov
Ivan Popov	Stefan Deevski
Kiril Zarev	Stoyan Marinov
Lyudmil Dakovski	Khristina Georgieva
Mimi Nencheva	Tsvetanka Petrova
Nadezhda Kozleva	

Commission on BCP National Conference's Decisions

Todor Zhivkov—chairman
Yordan Yotov—speaker
members:

Avram Slabakov	Dimitur Milenkov	Nikola Manolov
Aleksandur Dimitrov	Dimitur Stanishev	Nikola Todoriev
Aleksandur Kuzmanov	Dimitur Stoyanov	Nikola Tsonev
Aleksandur Stanchev	Dimitur Yadkov	Nikolay Zhishev
Angel Balevski	Dobri Dzhurov	Ognyan Doynov
Angel Vushkov	Doychin Doychinov	Pencho Kubadinski
Andrey Bundzhulov	Elena Zlateva	Petko Danchev
Andrey Lukanov	Emil Khristov	Petur Buchakchiev
Atanas Atanasov	Encho Enev	Petur Dyulgerov
Atanas Atanasov	Zhelyu Dobrev	Petur Mladenov
[names Atanasov as published]		
Atanas Iliev	Zdravko Ignatov	Petur Rogachev
Atanas Maleev	Ivan Bashkiyanov	Ruben Avramov
Atanas Mitkov	Ivan Dimitrov	Sava Dulbokov
Atanas Semerdzhiev	Ivan Iliev	Simeon Slavov
Atanaska Atanasova	Ivan Kanurov	Stanish Bonev

Commission on BCP National Conference's Decisions

Boris Anastasov	Ivan Panev	Stanka Kertikova
Vanya Taseva	Ivan Pekhlivanov	Stanko Todorov
Vasil Tsanov	Ivan Tenev	Stefan Ninov
Velika Kalaydzhieva	Ivan Toshev	Stefka Boyanova
Veselin Kartalski	Ivanka Licheva	Stoyna Maneva
Vladimir Bonev	Ilcho Dimitrov	Stoyan Markov
Vladimir Stoychev	Kalin Dimitrov	Stoyan Mikhaylov
Georgi Atanasov	Lazar Prichkapov	Stoyan Ovcharov
Georgi Grigorov	Lalyu Raykov	Tanya Atanasova
Georgi Dzhagarov	Lilyana Slaveeva	Tanya Vlakhliyska
Georgi Yordanov	Lyubomir Levchev	Trayanka Lekova
Georgi Karaulanov	Lyubcho Chaushev	Trifon Raichev

Commission on BCP National Conference's Decisions

Georgi Pankov	Manol Chobanov	Turpo Bozhilov
Georgi Kharizanov	Mara Dimitrova	Khristaki Kunev
Goran Ninov	Marena Karayankova	Khristo Bonin
Grigor Makariev	Milka Arizanova	Tsvetan Mateev
Grigor Stoichkov	Milko Balev	Tsvetana Todorova
Grisha Filipov	Milcho Milchev	Chudomir Aleksandrov
Dafinka Ivanova	Mincho Yovchev	Yanaki Yanakiev
Dimitur Dimitrov	Mincho Semov	Yaroslav Radev
Dimitur Logofetov	Nacho Papazov	

Husak 'Released' as National Front Chairman

LD031054 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] The Central Committee of the National Front of the Czechoslovak, Czech and Slovak Socialist Republics met today at a joint session in Prague. Lubos Lidicky reports:

[Lidicky] The session was opened by Comrade Gustav Husak, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, president of the Republic, and chairman of the National Front Central Committee! Also present was Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and other representatives of our political and public life, and leading officials of social organizations and political parties united in the National Front.

In the opening speech, Comrade Gustav Husak emphasized the important role of the National Front and all organizations in realizing the program of the 17th CPCZ Congress. He pointed out the tasks emerging from the conclusions of the 7th session of the CPCZ Central Committee, in particular with the restructuring of the economic mechanism and all areas of the life of society. The successful fulfillment of these tasks, Comrade Husak said, has the prerequisite of the activization of all creative forces of society, the creative involvement of all strata of workers, and this is where the National Front can make a marked contribution.

Then chaired by Josef Kempny, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, chairman of the Czech National Council, and chairman of the Czech National Front Central Committee, the session turned to discussing changes in the make-up of the National Front Central Committee. It evaluated the request by Comrade Gustav Husak to be released from the office of chairman of the Central Committee, member of the Presidium and Plenum of the National Front Central Committee.

In the discussion which followed, Vaclav Bezel, Josef Durica, Miroslava Memcova, and Frantisek Miseje spoke.

The National Front Central Committee acceded to Comrade Gustav Husak's request, and at the proposal of the Presidium of the National Front, unanimously elected Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, to be member of the Presidium and chairman of the National Front Central Committee of the CSSR.

During this part of the meeting, a resolution was adopted that was delivered by Tomas Travnicek, deputy chairman of the National Front Central Committee.

The joint session of the Central Committees of the National Front is continuing with the speech by Jindrich Polednik, secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, who is considering the role of the National Front in deepening socialist democracy and in the acceleration of the economic and social development of society. Discussion will follow his speech.

Further Reportage on Kohl's Visit

AU031125 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Jan 88 pp 1,7

[CTK and "zr"-signed report: "Chancellor Helmut Kohl Has Arrived in Prague; CSSR and FRG Premiers Hold Talks"]

[Excerpts] FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived for an official 2-day visit to Czechoslovakia on Tuesday [26 January] at the invitation of the CSSR Government. After his welcome by Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal, the guest paid respects to the fallen by laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in the National Memorial on Zizkov Hill. Afterwards he met with his host in Hrzane Palace for a 90-minute private talk [mezi ctyrma ocima], with interpreters attending. Then the two delegations, headed by L. Strougal and H. Kohl held talks. The CSSR premier gave a gala dinner in honor of the FRG chancellor in the evening, at which the two representatives delivered speeches. [passage omitted]

The FRG federal chancellor was greeted [at the airport] also by CSSR First Deputy Premier Rudolf Rohlicek; CSSR Deputy Premiers Ladislav Adamec, Pavel Hrivnak, Jaromir Obzina, Svatopluk Potac, and Miroslav Toman; Federal Ministers Bohuslav Chnoupek, Milan Vaclavik, Vratislav Vajnar, Jan Sterba, and Vladimir Blazek; Deputy Chairman of CSSR National Front Central Committee Tomas Travnicek; Prague Mayor Frantisek Stafa; generals of the Czechoslovak People's Army and other representatives of our political and public life.

The welcome was also attended by the ambassadors of the two states, Dusan Spacil and Werner Schattmann.

The ceremony at Prague Airport ended with a solemn march-past by a military unit.

In the afternoon, accompanied by B. Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, the guest paid a visit to the National Memorial on Zizkov Hill in Prague, where he was welcomed by Vratislav Vajnar, CSSR minister of the Interior, and other representatives. To the sound of the Pax Vobis funeral march he laid a wreath at the Tomb of Unknown Warrior. After the CSSR and FRG national anthems, a march-past by the Guard of Honor concluded the solemn act. Before he left the National Memorial, Helmut Kohl wrote in the visitors' book: "In the hope that our nations will receive a peaceful and common future."

The solemn act was attended by the two countries' ambassadors.

On the way from the National Memorial the chancellor made a brief stopover in Wenceslas Square, where he exchanged greetings with inhabitants of Prague and visitors to the capital.

The CSSR premier held talks with the FRG federal chancellor at the Prague Hrzane Palace in the afternoon. According to the spokesmen of the two sides, the private talk, attended by interpreters, lasted 90 minutes.

The two representatives frankly [otevrene] and critically evaluated the level of relations between the CSSR and the FRG, and assessed a wide range of subjects which are of interest in the new phase of the two neighboring countries' relations in the political, economic, but also cultural, scientific, and other spheres, including the expansion of tourism, the exchange of youth collectives, and the fostering of wider interhuman relations in general. They noted that even when fully respecting the differences of the two states' social systems, it is possible to assert the philosophy of a common European home and good neighborliness, and—making use of the past positive experience—to overcome the barrier of mistrust which has been in many respects until now obstructing the dynamic development of mutual relations.

The government delegations of the two countries met afterwards. The talks were attended from the Czechoslovak side by CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal; Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs; Jan Sterba, CSSR minister of foreign trade; Vladimir Blazek, CSSR minister of transportation; Evzen Vacek, CSSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; Jiri Nemec, CSSR deputy minister of foreign trade; and Dusan Spacil, CSSR ambassador to the FRG.

From the FRG side, the talks were attended by FRG Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl; Minister of Transport Juergen Warnke; State Secretary Friedhelm Ost, head of the the Federal Government's Press and Information Office; Dieter von Wuerzen, state secretary in the Federal Ministry of Economics; Horst Teltschik, ministerial director in the Federal Chancellor's Office; and Werner Schattmann, FRG ambassador to the CSSR.

The exceptional significance of the FRG federal chancellor's visit to Czechoslovakia—the first in 15 years—was stressed during the talks. This has upgraded the two countries' extensive political relations to a corresponding level and created a favorable climate for their expansion in the interest of the two states.

Particular attention was paid to the level and extent of economic relations which, for the time being, constitute a substantial part of mutual cooperation—the FRG is Czechoslovakia's largest Western trading partner. Despite that, however, neither of the two countries profits from the potential and needs of their economies, especially regarding modern forms of cooperation. A wide range of questions of common interest were put forward on cooperation, entrepreneurship on third markets, joint ventures, and also in transportation, power engineering, communications, and environmental protection. Precisely in that sphere there exists a number of issues which are to help Czechoslovakia resolve its plans for reducing emissions and protecting water resources.

The extensive talks also touched upon the problems of interhuman relations, which Helmut Kohl several times depicted as the prerequisite for a better future for our neighborliness and the opportunity to present in this way a model for East-West relations. Lubomir Strougal informed him on our intentions concerning the improvement of the border regimen, visa practices, work with journalists, and submitted a number of suggestions concerning culture, science, and education. He stressed, as well, the Czechoslovak Government's good will to resolve in a short span of time some problems with the Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia.

The course of the talks affirmed the interest of the two delegations in turning over a new leaf in relations between the CSSR and the FRG, and making use of good experience—especially in economic cooperation—for the well-being of the people of the two countries as well as in an all-European interest. When discussing international issues, Lubomir Strougal and Helmut Kohl underscored the importance of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of the Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and favored the continuation and expansion of the disarmament process in the sphere of strategic, chemical, and conventional weapons. The two statesmen will once more come back to these issues in another talk.

After the end of the talks, CSSR Minister of Transportation Vladimir Blazek, and FRG Minister of Transport, Juergen Warnke together with Werner Schattmann, FRG ambassador to the CSSR, signed a CSSR-FRG Government agreement on river transportation. [passage omitted]

The same day in Prague, Jaromir Obzina, CSSR deputy premier and chairman of the State Commission for Scientific-Technical and Investment Development, met with FRG Minister of Transport Juergen Warnke, and Miroslav Toman, CSSR minister of agriculture and food, met with Dieter von Wuerzen, state secretary in the FRG Federal Ministry of Economics.

Strougal, French Minister Discuss Cooperation

LD021652 Prague CTK in English
1622 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Prague Feb 2 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal received here today French Minister of Industry, telecommunications and Tourism Alain Madelin who is on an official one-day visit in Czechoslovakia.

They discussed the topical problems of economic and mainly industrial cooperation between France and Czechoslovakia. Lubomir Strougal appreciated the progress made in the political dialogue between the two governments and stated that there are favourable conditions for a qualitative change in the content and form of these relations. Alain Madelin stressed the French interest in increasing cooperation in many sectors, especially in the automobile industry.

The two politicians also exchanged information on the development of relations between the European Economic Community (EEC) and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA).

Bilak Confers With Papandreou in Athens

AU011646 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 29 Jan 88 pp 1,7

[Athens dispatch by RUDE PRAVO special correspondent Milan Madr: "A. Papandreou Receives V. Bilak; Negotiations Between the CPCZ and the Panhellenic Socialist Movement in Athens"]

[Text] "Our views on all discussed issues were identical," Andreas Papandreou, secretary general of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) and Greek prime minister, declared after meeting Vasil Bilak, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and Central Committee secretary, who is in Greece on a working visit at the PASOK leadership's invitation. The meeting took place on Thursday [28 January] evening in the prime minister's residence in the Athens suburb of Kiphisia.

During their exchange of views, which lasted for almost 1 hour, V. Bilak conveyed to the Greek prime minister the greetings sent by Comrades M. Jakes, G. Husak, and L. Strougal. Andreas Papandreou cordially reciprocated the greetings. The Greek statesman expressed feelings of goodwill [sympatie] toward the restructuring process in the CSSR and appraised it within the broader international framework. Later in their talk he expressed interest in the details of current Czechoslovak development and positively appraised the CPCZ creative approach to the solution of basic long-term issues in the development of Czechoslovak society. The Czechoslovak guest provided the Greek statesman with a detailed expose on this entire range of problems. A. Papandreou also expressed support for the development of CPCZ-PASOK cooperation. Furthermore, the two representatives agreed on the necessity and beneficial nature of further deepening CSSR-Greek economic cooperation.

V. Bilak and A. Papandreou expressed high appreciation of the tendency toward strengthening peace and cooperation in the world, which is strikingly symbolized by the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

The talk strongly resounded with appreciation of the beneficial nature of joint efforts to achieve a peaceful, sensible solution to international problems, in the vital interests of all people and nations. In this context A. Papandreou stressed the CSSR's peace initiatives. Vasil Bilak expressed appreciation of the Hellenic Republic's peace-creating efforts and foreign policy orientation, as well as of Andreas Papandreou's personal contributions in this respect. [passage omitted]

Poland's Jozef Baryla Ends Visit

AU011456 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] Plzen (CTK)—On the second day of his stay in the CSSR, Jozef Baryla, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee—accompanied by CPCZ Central Committee Secretary Mikulas Beno—paid a visit to Plzen. In the Skoda concern enterprise he inspected a section of the machine tools plant and met with functionaries of the party organization and the management of the enterprise. He discussed methods of political activity in work collectives with them. Attention focused on the activation of communists and the enhancement of the effectiveness of party work.

Afterwards Jozef Baryla met with the leadership of the regional party organization. They discussed progress in realizing the conclusions of the Seventh CPCZ Central Committee Session and the working methods of the CPCZ territorial [uzemni] agencies and primary organizations.

Jozef Baryla ended his working visit to the CSSR the same day. In the evening he was seen off at Ruzyne Airport by CPCZ Central Committee Secretaries Mikulas Beno and Jindrich Polednik. Andrzej Jedynak, PPR ambassador to the CSSR, was present.

Soviet Delegation Arrives on Working Visit

LD021250 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1130 GMT 12 Jan 88

[Text] A Soviet delegation headed by Yuriy Maslyukov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, has arrived in Czechoslovakia for a working visit. The delegation held talks with Ladislav Luhovy, federal minister of general engineering, about deepening cooperation and widening mutual deliveries, in particular in the area of textile, leather processing, footwear machinery, and consumer goods. The Soviet guests will also visit the enterprises of the Elitex concern in Chrastava and in Jablonec and Nisou, the Gottwaldov precision engineering works, the Vsetin Armament works, Kalex Zlate Moravce, and some other engineering organizations.

Delhi Six Declaration Supported

AU011811 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 30 Jan 88 p 7

[CTK report: "Important Declaration; Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry Spokesman on the Stockholm Appeal of the Delhi Group for Peace and Disarmament"]

[Text] Prague—At their third meeting (held on 21 January) the representatives of the Delhi Group of States and Governments for Peace and Disarmament—which consists of Argentina, India, Mexico, Greece, Sweden, and Tanzania—signed the Stockholm Declaration, in which they expressed their basic stands and formulated new proposals on the process of armament limitation and of disarmament.

The CSSR has appreciated the activities of the Delhi Six very highly from the very beginning. We regard the group's activities as a great support for the effort to avert the threat of a nuclear war, halt feverish armament, and achieve disarmament—as a strong incentive to mobilize and unify all peace-loving and anti-war forces in the interests of preserving peace, consolidating security, and expanding cooperation; this was said on Friday [29 January] by Dusan Rovensky, spokesman of the CSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

We consider it significant that, in its Stockholm Declaration, the Delhi Six has welcomed the signing of the Soviet-American agreement on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles as a historical step on the road toward total nuclear disarmament. The declaration points out that it is essential to remove, without postponement and totally, a large quantity of tactical-nuclear weapons, and calls for a speedy conclusion of a USSR-U.S. agreement on a 50% reduction of strategic nuclear arsenals and for strict adherence to the treaty on limiting the anti-missile defense system. It emphatically reminds us of the topical nature of the ban on all nuclear arms tests, of the elimination of chemical weapons, of the impossibility to tolerate the militarization of space, and of the need to substantially cut down conventional forces and armaments.

The declaration offers further opportunities for cooperation in resolving significant disarmament issues in the international forums. In this respect we will continue to cooperate energetically with the states of the Delhi Group, the spokesman emphasized.

Further Reportage on 17 Jan Demonstration

FRG, GDR Officials Meet

LD011714 Hamburg DPA in German
1652 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—East Berlin lawyer Wolfgang Vogel and Bonn State Secretary Hans Rehlinger are together making efforts for a "humane solution" to the problems that have arisen in connection with the demonstration in East Berlin on 17 January. This was clear in a statement Vogel gave to DPA today in answer to an enquiry.

With calm and levelheadness on both sides there will be "no lack of a good solution overall." The joint efforts are meant to avert further damage to the arrested, their families and also to intra-German relations.

Vogel, who is also considered a confidant of GDR state and party leader Erich Honecker, did not give details concerning his contacts with Rehlinger and the likely solution to the conflict.

Rehlinger and the lawyer have repeatedly met in the past, unnoticed by the press and public alike, and have been successfully involved in solving humanitarian problems.

In his statement Vogel "emphatically" asked both sides for "willingness and calm." The lawyer rejected "dramatizing campaigns" a week ago. He emphasized that the talk about humanitarian issues between the two German states went back to the year 1962. "Since then, every conflict has indeed been defused and solved."

The latest statement by Vogel concerning contacts with Rehlinger reads: "I, as representative for humanitarian issues, am looking with Mr Secretary of State Rehlinger for a humane solution to avert further damage from the hard hit clients, their families, and international relations. For this, willingness and calm are needed on both sides, and I emphatically ask for this out of concern. Then there will be no lack of a good overall solution."

Church Hopeful

LD020207 Hamburg DPA in German
2219 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Excerpt] East Berlin (DPA)—The Evangelical Church in East Berlin now has justifiable hopes that there will be a solution of the controversy following the arrests in connection with the rally on 17 January and that those imprisoned will soon be released. Manfred Stolpe, president of the East Berlin Consistory, said this evening at a church event that "even if we, as I very much hope, achieve the release in the next few days, great tasks still remain." He said that there were signs of decisions "which will do justice to the people and the situation in the country."

Speaking to over 1,000 people in the crowded (St Bartholomew's Church), Stolpe said it was a positive sign that Bishop Gottfried Forck had received permission to visit those in prison. This evening he had spoken first of all with, among others, Stepan Krawczyk, Freya Klier, and Bert Schlegel.

Stolpe also touched on the topic of leaving the GDR. The task also remained of talking about the reasons for applications for exit visas and about the need "to arrive at humanitarian solutions for those who have finally decided to do this."

The lawyer engaged by the church, Wolfgang Schnur, who has announced that he will appeal the sentences passed on four members of church and environmental groups, also expressed hope. He spoke of "some steps in the right direction" which would lead to a solution for those concerned. In the interests of his clients he did not wish to say any more. Stolpe and Schnur, whose speeches were interrupted several times by prolonged applause, did not refer to talks with state authorities, obviously in the interests of reaching an early solution. [passage omitted]

Detainees To Be Released

LD021211 Hamburg DPA in German
1158 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] East Berlin (DPA)—East Berlin lawyer Wolfgang Vogel, who is in charge of clearing up humanitarian questions, announced Tuesday that "all those in custody" in connection with the demonstration of 17 January will be released by the weekend. When asked, he added that the release will take place this week.

Krawczyk, Klier Leave GDR

LD021407 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1353 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, 2 Feb (ADN)—Stefan Krawczyk and Freya Klier, who were arrested for their treasonable relations, have left the GDR today for the FRG in accordance with their application and with regard to the necessary legal statutes.

Commentary Denounces 'Glasnost'

LD011343 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1237 GMT 1 Feb 88

[Text] Berlin, 1 Feb (ADN)-Under the headline "Fiction and Fact," NEUES DEUTSCHLAND will publish the following commentary, Tuesday:

The most varied frequencies are being used on the air at the moment in order to mislead citizens of the FRG, of Berlin (West), and of the GDR. This is not in itself anything surprising, since this already has been happening for decades. People are used to it in the GDR. There is no doubt here that the financers of this propaganda are not interested in peaceful coexistence. On the part of the GDR, the opportunity has been given, by means of

increased GDR-FRG and FRG-GDR travel, to brief oneself on the spot as to what is fiction and what fact. At all events, it is fiction that the latest arrests for riotous assembly and treasonable relations have anything to do with the church or the freedom to practice religion. Nor is this altered by various intercession services on the part of individual pastors, who really must know this.

In the attacks by fascist hooligans in front of and in the Zion Church, there was a clear expression of where it leads to if such groups, controlled from West Berlin, are allowed to have influence. It goes without saying that the people's police, which by law have to look after peace and order, cannot permit such things, but rather have to hand the perpetrators over, in accordance with the law, to those institutions that must decide whether or not the law was broken.

Now a series of people are coming forward who feel themselves competent to protest against violations of human rights in the GDR, although they would have reason enough to safeguard human rights in the FRG. One only needs think of the 4 million unemployed in the FRG and in West Berlin. One only need think of those poor children who have to go to school in bad weather without socks and shoes, with cold feet and no breakfast. It is futile to seek news about that from a station which, from West Berlin, does not serve to inform the population, but merely to broadcast tirades of hatred against the GDR. This station, as is known, calls itself "Glasnost." That is so say, a word that has another meaning to the east of us is being used in order to carry on counter-revolutionary propaganda against the GDR.

All of this shows how necessary it is to unmask this station, the financial sources of which can be exposed at any time, as what it is: a station for which it is not convenient that the GDR, the FRG and West Berlin coexist peacefully, and one that favors a return to the cold war. If the financers of the station continue their campaign, they must bear the consequences. For in any case, this campaign will have an unfavorable effect on the relations between the GDR, the FRG, and Berlin (West).

Dohlus Receives Hungarian Official Kotai

AU011356 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 29 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received Geza Kotai, Central Committee member and director of the MSZMP International Relations Department, in Berlin on Thursday [28 January].

During the friendly meeting the interlocutors stressed their parties' efforts in implementing the joint peace program of the Warsaw Pact member states. They assessed the trusting relationship between SED and MSZMP as a decisive basis for the further comprehensive expansion of relations between the two states and peoples.

Horst Dohlus briefed his visitor on topical issues of party work in implementing the 11th Party Congress resolutions as a result of the Fifth SED Central Committee Session. He pointed out the initiatives of the working people in the GDR which are aimed at successfully and vigorously fulfilling the comprehensive tasks in the economy and society.

The talk was attended by Guenter Sieber, member of the SED Central Committee and director of the International Relations Department of the Central Committee, and Istvan Roska, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to the GDR.

Honecker Receives Brazilian Ambassador

AU011309 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 29 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Thursday [28 January] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received Ernesto Alberto Ferreira de Carvalho, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federative Republic of Brazil, for the presentation of his credentials.

During the subsequent talk it was stressed that relations between the GDR and Brazil are developing steadily and to the mutual advantage of both sides. The basis for this is the concurrence of views of both states on decisive present-day issues, such as the safeguarding of peace, putting an end to the arms race, and the prevention of the militarization of space. The interlocutors assessed the proposals to create nuclear-free and chemical-weapon-free zones in central Europe, jointly submitted by the GDR and CSSR, as well as the Brazilian initiative to set up a zone of peace and cooperation in the South Atlantic as independent contributions to disarmament and the safeguarding of peace.

The ambassador conveyed greetings from Jose Sarney, president of the Federative Republic of Brazil, which were cordially reciprocated by Erich Honecker.

Kleiber Receives Cuban Materials Minister

AU011318 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 29 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Thursday [29 January] Gunther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the GDR side of the GDR-Cuba Economic Committee, received Levi Farah Balmaseda, minister of building material industry of the Republic of Cuba, for a friendly talk. Gunther Kleiber briefed the Cuban visitor on the implementation of the resolutions of the 11th SED Congress, resolutions which are aimed at the further political and economic strengthening of the GDR and at safeguarding peace in the world.

In the course of the talk, issues concerning the further strengthening of economic and scientific-technological relations between the two countries were discussed, particularly

the further increase in the efficiency of cement production in the plants established jointly by the GDR and Cuba, and modern methods for the production and use of pipes for supply lines. In this connection, Levi Farah Balmaseda reported on the successful cooperation with the GDR Construction Ministry.

Honecker Receives Burkina Faso Ambassador
AU011307 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 29 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—On Thursday [28 January] Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received Melegue Traore, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Burkina Faso to the GDR, for the presentation of his credentials. The ambassador conveyed greetings from Captain Blaise Compaore, chairman of the People's Front and head of state and government of Burkina Faso, which were reciprocated by Erich Honecker.

In the subsequent talk they concurred in assessing the work of all states to safeguard and strengthen peace as the most urgent task. Erich Honecker expressed the certainty that successes in the peoples' joint efforts toward further disarmament steps will lastingly improve the chances of solving Africa's problems.

330 Demonstrate in Front of Romanian Embassy

LD021501 Budapest MTI in English
1424 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Budapest, February 2 (MTI)—At 4 p.m. on February 1, Monday, some 330 people gathered, without the preliminary licence of authorities, in the vicinity of the Budapest Embassy of Romania and held a silent demonstration. In the wake of a warning by the police, the group dispersed after 30 to 40 minutes.

Trade Union Leader Gaspar Visits Beijing

AU021612 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian
1 Feb 88 p 1

[Text] A Hungarian trade union delegation led by Sandor Gaspar, chairman of the National Trade Union Council, arrived in Beijing on 30 January.

The Hungarian delegation was received at Beijing airport by Ni Zhifu, chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions.

Gaspar Sandor, Delegation Visit PRC's Zhao

For XINHUA coverage of Politburo member Gaspar Sandor and the accompanying trade union delegation's visit with PRC General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, see the East Europe section of the International Affairs division of the 3 February China DAILY REPORT.

MSZMP Leadership Called 'More Tolerant'

LD022256 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1322 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Budapest, February 2 (TANJUG)—Over 400 members of the Democratic Forum, the unofficial organization of oppositionists and supporters of radical reforms in Hungary, have demanded the drafting of a new election law, the modification of the Constitution (promulgated in 1949), the transformation of the position of members of parliament into professional jobs and have also called for permanent parliament sessions as was the case in the early post-war years.

At the close of the debate on the further development of parliamentary democracy held late last week in Budapest, members of the forum—economists, political scientists, sociologists, writers and other intellectuals also decided that if their appeal was not carried by the Hungarian press, they would have it published by foreign news media.

At its first meeting held this autumn in Lakitelek, a small town some thirty kilometres east of Kecskemet, the Democratic Forum concluded that those Hungarians whose opinions differ from the official stands should take part in the decision-making process in matters of outstanding national importance. The Patriotic People's Front has agreed in principle with this decision and it could provide the most favourable framework for the activity of the Democratic Forum.

The leadership of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party followed with dissatisfaction the work of the Lakitelek conference, but its stand towards the forum later became more tolerant. The further reform of the political system in Hungary indicates a broader dialogue between all strata of society and respect for different opinions if they are not directed against the socialist order.

Miklos Speaks on Potential Visit by Pope

AU030946 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German
3 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] Vienna—Tens of thousands of Hungarians will be coming to Austria for the Pope's visit in June: To date, 50,000 Hungarians have expressed interest in this event at travel agencies. As State Secretary Imre Miklos, chairman of the Budapest State Office for Church Affairs, announced at a press conference in Vienna on Tuesday [2 February], "every Hungarian is totally free" to travel to Austria. The pilgrims must, however, have foreign currency, which cannot be provided by the state.

The government official for church affairs is pragmatic—as on all other questions—with regard to a potential visit by John Paul II to Hungary: "First of all, one has to ask the Pope himself whether he wants to come."

The harsh treatment of conscientious objectors is, according to Miklos, "an issue that has not been conclusively dealt with." At present only Nazarenes and Jehovah's Witnesses, who are prohibited by their religion from bearing arms, are exempt from military service; others are still sentenced to up to 3 years in prison, Miklos explained. But the state secretary did not want to exclude the possibility that the law might be modified.

No compromise is possible on one point in the relations between state and church, which were described by Miklos in a sober and positive way: The rehabilitation of the late Cardinal Mindszenty is out of the question. Mindszenty, who had lived in the U.S. Embassy in Budapest for years before he found asylum in Vienna, was a church leader and a politician—"and unfortunately, he was a bad politician."

In the state secretary's view, the churches in Hungary have numerous important tasks. Among them are—in addition to the moral authority resulting from religious work—work in the social sector, the health sector, culture, and historical research, as well as the "struggle against war," in which Marxists and believers come together. Religious communities can also have a positive effect on work morale and thus contribute indirectly to the government's economic reform program, Miklos said.

U.S. Assistant Secretary Whitehead Visits

Arrival in Krakow

AU031000 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 1 Feb 88 p 2

["The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Has Arrived in Poland"—PAP headline]

[Text] Krakow: John C. Whitehead, U.S. assistant secretary of state, arrived in Poland on 30 January. He was welcomed at Krakow's Balice Airport by Tadeusz Olechowski, undersecretary of state for foreign affairs, and Krakow's city fathers. John R. Davis, U.S. charge d'affaires ad interim, was present.

J. Whitehead visited the former German death camp at Oswiecim [Auschwitz], where, in homage to the millions of victims of German fascism, he laid flowers on behalf of the American people at the Wall of Death and the Death Block, and also at the international memorial to the victims of fascism at Brzezinka [Birkenau].

He told a PAP correspondent: "I hope that the enormity of the atrocities committed in Oswiecim and the memory of them will make us all the more determined to preserve world peace, so that the nightmare of Oswiecim may never be repeated. Our task is to aim toward peace, toward a better understanding of each other, and accord."

On Saturday afternoon, he visited the Market Square, St Mary's Church with the Veit Stoss altar, the Clement Zablocki Children's Treatment Center, Institute of Pediatrics of the Krakow Medical Academy, and the Collegium Maius of the Jagiellonian University, where he met with a group of university scholars.

On Sunday he visited the Nowa Huta steelworks and viewed the exhibits at the Royal Castle of Wawel.

In the afternoon of 31 January, the American politician arrived in Warsaw.

Holds Talks With Malinowski

LD022118 Warsaw PAP in English 1914 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2—The U.S. deputy secretary of state, John C. Whitehead, was received Tuesday by Sejm Speaker Roman Malinowski. Expressing satisfaction with the Polish Sejm's and American Congress' active participation in the process of normalization and improvement of relations between both countries, both men drew attention to the further possibilities of the intensification of relations between both countries' parliaments.

Roman Malinowski informed his guest about the state of the Sejm's initiative on the organization in Warsaw of a meeting of the heads of the parliaments of the CSCE states.

Also today, John C. Whitehead conducted talks with Chairman of the Government Planning Commission Deputy Premier Zbigniew Sadowski, Minister of Industry Jerzy Bilip and Secretary of State in the Ministry for Foreign Economic Cooperation Andrzej Wojcik.

In the light of the approaching session of the joint Polish-American commission for trade, the sides comprehensively discussed the issue of economic cooperation between Poland and the United States. Particular attention was given to the possibility of wider than hitherto participation of American firms in the pro-export modernization of selected sectors of Polish industry and the creation of joint production undertakings with the participation of foreign capital. Furthermore, the participants discussed a number of issues the solving of which would enable the widening of Polish-American economic and trade cooperation.

The American guest was extensively acquainted with various aspects of Poland's economic situation, including matters connected with the second stage of the economic reform.

Received by Jaruzelski

LD030915 Warsaw PAP in English 0830 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 3—President of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski today received U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead, now on a visit to Poland.

Urban on Prices Hikes, Demonstrations

LD021346 Warsaw PAP in English 1245 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2—At his weekly press conference today Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban characterized the expectations of his government regarding society's reaction to the price hikes.

The government did not expect satisfaction at the price hikes because this is a painful operation. We think that as the reform makes progress, more and more citizens will understand that the price increases were necessary, the government spokesman stated.

Jerzy Urban dismissed reports carried by ASSOCIATED PRESS alleging that several-thousand strong demonstrations were held in Gdansk and Warsaw to protest the price hikes.

These were several-hundred strong groups of always the same 'actors' who stage similar scenes for the Western mass media, Urban said.

Minister Urban rejected allegations that the salaries of the party and state apparatus were to go up by 70 per cent, as Radio Free Europe has reported.

Pay rises for these groups of employees—Urban said—will be introduced on principles similar to those applied for office staff in general.

Explaining why the Polish zloty was devalued against foreign currencies, Urban said that the reasons for this included a fall in the buying power of the zloty and a wish to maintain such a position of the zloty which would favour growing exports and prevent unprofitable exports.

The government spokesman announced that the government considered the talks with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Whitehead as very constructive and more promising than a year ago.

We assess them as an expression of a sincere and firm will to develop Polish-American relations. Tomorrow Whitehead will meet with Jaruzelski. Polish Foreign Affairs Minister Orzechowski would visit the United States this year, Urban said.

During the talks with Whitehead in Warsaw, the sides did not discuss the possibility of Ronald Reagan visiting Poland, Urban added.

Asked about yesterday's demonstration staged in front of the Romanian Embassy in Warsaw, Urban said:

"Polish authorities will not permit street rows and provocations aimed to disturb the relations between befriended socialist countries."

More on Press Conference

LD021805 Warsaw PAP in English
1514 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2: The asssessment of the hitherto course of the Polish visit by U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead, Poland after the price hikes, personnel situation in ministries after reorganization, Poland's stance towards the policy of repressions in Israel were the main topics of today's press conference of Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban who also denied reports by Western agencies and press to the effect that the price hikes had caused mass demonstrations in this country. [sentence as received]

Whitehead's Visit to Poland [subhead]

Yesterday's report by PAP on Whitehead's visit was supplemented by Urban's remark that the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State had also met with Deputy Sejm Speaker Mieczyslaw Rakowski.

Generally, we assess the talks as very constructive, Urban said. We highly appraised talks with Mr. Whitehead held last year. This year's ones are even more promising in their substance and with regard to their climate. Despite the still existing differences in opinions on many international and bilateral questions, these talks are even better than those held last year.

The guest expressed before his Polish interlocutors the will to understand the situation in our country with no simplifications, with its full complexity. We recognized Mr. Whitehead's assurances of the will to move forward the Polish-American relations as honest and determined, a proof of this being the invitation from State Secretary George Shultz conveyed to Minister Marian Orzechowski to pay an official visit to the U.S. this year.

The talks focus on economic relations. The sides also discussed the Jaruzelski Plan, assessed by the guest as one containing interesting proposals, vital in the present state of the East-West relations. The guest also assessed Polish economic reforms as appropriate considering their direction and said that the American side was following them with understanding.

Urban stressed that the Polish hosts were trying to make it possible for the deputy secretary of state to meet with a broad circle of interlocutors representing different opinions so that he could acquire good knowledge of Polish problems and dilemmas. The climax of the visit will be the reception of Mr Whitehead by Wojciech Jaruzelski, Urban said.

Situation in Poland After Price Increases [subhead]

Yesterday, when I read some Western reports about Poland—Urban continued—I learned that Poland was allegedly engulfed by fire. Reports about clashes with the police are totally invented, there were no such occurrences. The number of participants in two small and short demonstrations was grossly exaggerated. These, whenever there is any occasion, march from St. Brygida's Church in Gdansk and from the Warsaw Church in Zoloborz. The same group of actors and supernumeraries organize, in the same places, the same shows for the benefit of Western TV cameras. After being filmed and photographed by Western TV crews and press photographers the participants disperse. This time there were several hundred of them in each case, including bystanders. Not thousands.

Quoting some reports broadcast by Radio Free Europe and stressing that they were full of conflicting information and lies, Urban said:

"Radio Free Europe was inciting and continues [word indistinct] in Poland, [word indistinct] Poles to any acts of desperation. The message of this propaganda directed towards Poland [words indistinct] is a fact, Urban said, that at a time of the arrival in Poland of U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Whitehead, who declared that he was arriving to continue the process of the improvement of relations between the United States and Poland, an

American radio station broadcast words inciting to riot and that something more than programmes and calls was needed (on the part the opposition) to move society in this direction.

Replying to a question posed by the Associated Press Urban said: The government did not expect nor is expecting satisfaction with the price hikes. This is a painful operation. It is painful for the vast majority of families, whose living conditons are the most difficult, despite the fact that the government has tried to protect them in the best possible way from the effects of the increases. We think that, as the reform progresses and as its positive effects begin to appear, more and more citizens will come to understand that it was necessary and gave postive results. The Polish nation is not a band of desperados who will fight with stones against economic necessities. Polish society knows and understands that prices, wages, the standard of living depend on work, the functioning of economic mechanisms, rationalization of employment, on surrendering to economic pressure, to economical use of resources, energy and fuels.

I envisage that, as usual, increased demands for higher wages from workers' crews will be the reaction to the hikes. If an increase of production becomes the instrument of this demand then everything will be fine, the wages of those who work productively will increase, the whole society will gradually begin to live better, the reform will give favourable effects.

If, however, pressure for wage growth unassociated with increased production and economic results turns out to be the prevailing factor, the government will severely counteract since giving in to such pressures would only signify a growth of inflation. Whereas, the government within three years intends to throttle, lower and not raise it.

Answering a question whether the forces of law and order were put on alert in connection with the price hikes, Urban said: The forces of law and order are always on alert for the defence of the safety of citizens and their country. On the other hand forces of order in the economy were put on red alert. These forces are growing in numbers, Urban said.

Solidarnosc's Health Protection Fund [subhead]

Replying to a question whether during Whitehead's visit talks were held on Solidarnosc's health protection fund, Urban said: I have no information about the project of this foundation being a topic of talks with Mr. Whitehead. This fund is currently being opined on by the Health Ministry. On the other hand, a different foundation, for supplying water to villages, was discussed with Mr. Whitehead.

Possibility of Reagan's Visit to Poland [subhead]

In reply to a question whether the possibility of President Reagan's visit to Poland was discussed, Urban said that this had not been mentioned during talks with John C. Whitehead. I can ascertain that Poland will welcome with due respect and readiness every President of the United States, he said. Attitude Towards Demonstrations [subhead]

Replying to a question on the police's action yesterday in front of the Romanian Embassy in Warsaw Urban said: The Polish authorities will decidedly not allow street brawls to take place and they similarly will not allow provocations which are aimed at setting befriended socialist states at odds.

Devaluation of the Zloty [subhead]

Asked about the devaluation of the zloty against other currencies, Urban said:

This was caused by the diminishing buying power of the zloty and by the desire for such a position of the zloty which would help increase exports. The point is to maintain the profitability of exports. This does not mean however to lower the zloty to the minimum but to uphold it on such a level which would mobilize enterprises towards profitable export and on the other hand to eliminate the unprofitable one.

Israeli Policy of Repressions [subhead]

Poland many a time voiced protest against the Israeli policy of repressions towards the Palestinian minority. Along with majority of the states in the world and prevailing public opinion, we are indignant at the Israeli repressions and we express it on the forum of the respective U.N. bodies. Personal Policy in Ministries [subhead]

The government spokesman said that the newly-formed ministries had already been shaped in their basic framework. There are 2,474 persons employed as of January 1, 1988 (out of 3,131 permanent positions), apart from 183 directors and vice-directors of departments (out of 216 permanent positions). Managerial posts in ministries have already been filled.

Under the previous system those positions were occupied by 6,000 persons including 563 heads of departments. The number of directors has more than halved. Employment in ministries which have not been reorganized will go down by 1,200 permanent positions.

The whole central administration has undergone a personnel review linked with the staff's evaluation. It covered 12,700 persons and was more rigorous than the earlier ones. Only 20-25 percent of the personnel of the cancelled ministries were qualified for further work in the central administration.

The allegation by Radio Free Europe that the ruling apparatus received 70-percent wage increases is not true. The managerial cadres will not receive any wage increase apart from the 6,000 zlotys which everybody will receive equally, Urban said.

Despite the fact that the CC [Central Committee] apparatus has been reduced by 20 percent and the central state administration by one-third, the state leadership is not queueing for raises. Neither have decision been made about an increase of wages of the lower party apparatus. What is envisaged is an increase of wages of state administration employees on a scale corresponding to the average wage increase envisaged for employees paid from the state budget. Revelations of the Canadian Press [subhead]

Urban commented on the reports published by the Canadian papers, writing at length about a man named Paszkowski, who is being presented as a double-agent working both for the Canadian and Polish intelligence services. Urban said that this was total fiction. The only thing which is known is that in 1982 Paszkowski hijacked a plane in Budapest to Munich, where he was sentenced to 4.5 years in prison.

Bugaj's Statement [subhead]

Answering a question whether Minister Urban has adopted any stand on a statement by the Bugaj group, the spokesman replied:

"I have nothing ready to say about a document signed by Ryszard Bugaj and a group of other persons. However, I read the document with interest and my personal impression was such that there are some conciliatory elements in it. Although, as is usually the case with statements by this group of persons, it contains exaggerated gloomy assessments of the situation in Poland. Anyway, I think that this is a serious text and contains many views convergent with our programmatic assumptions.

"I mentioned the document because of its contrasting contents with a statement by Maciej Ilowiecki, one of the signatories of the document, for Radio Free Europe. Two or three days after signing the conciliatory statement, editor Ilowiecki started thinking on how to provoke an explosion in Poland through Free Europe, the spokesman said. In this situation, one should ask a question how it is possible to trust a person who one day signs conciliatory documents proposing dialogue and several days later proclaims the need to seek ignition of an explosion in Poland. What kind of partners for dialogue are they, Urban asked. [quotation marks as received]

Polish Ambassador Defends Price Policy

AU031005 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 3 Feb 88 p 2

[Text] Vienna/Warsaw—Marian Krzak, Polish ambassador to Austria, affirmed in a press conference in Vienna yesterday that the drastic price increases that went into effect on Monday [1 February] are by no means intended to reduce the standard of living of his country's population. On the contrary, with this measure, it is planned to improve the price structure, limit waste, establish a balance between supply and demand, and reduce the budget deficit. Ambassador Krzak regretted the fact that with regard to the present economic reform, Western media are mainly interested in the price increases, and that less attention is given to other issues, such as the introduction of elements of market economy.

Krzak attributes the absence of spectacular protests against the price increases this time to the fact that the population was better prepared and the (official) trade unions were included in the political decision making process. In Warsaw Janusz Onyszkiewicz, spokesman for the prohibited Solidarity trade union, confirmed that for the time being no outbreaks of unrest are expected. Although the new prices are being discussed with bitterness in the enterprises, the people employed there are hoping for compensation by means of higher wages, the speaker said.

John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, currently in Poland on a 5-day visit, has in the meantime announced a donation of 10 million dollars for the agricultural relief project which is administered by the Catholic Church. On 8 March Austrian Foreign Minister Mock is expected in Warsaw for a visit lasting several days.

Catholics View Genscher's Visit

AU011400 Warsaw PRZEGLAD KATOLICKI in Polish 24 Jan 88 p 3

[Janusz Reiter article: "Is Distrust Really Inevitable?"

[Text] It is unfortunate that the Polish press did not give the necessary attention to the following item of Hans-Dietrich Genscher's visit to Poland: On the third day of his visit the FRG foreign minister decorated Professor Stanislaw Stomma with the Federal Order of Merit, thereby honoring the contribution that this Catholic intellectual and politician has made toward the cause of reconciliation between Poles and Germans. This honor was given to a partner, who is friendly but not uncritical toward the FRG, who does not bypass disputed questions, who tries to solve such questions, and who follows moral motives while observing the rules of pragmatism. This honor was also an indirect acknowledgement of the role that the Catholic Church has played and continues to play in the dialogue between Poles and Germans. If Polish-German relations had followed Stomma's ideas, I think many obstacles still facing us could have been removed a long time ago.

Not only that wise gesture, but Genscher's entire visit was carefully considered, which is to the credit of the German guest and of his hosts. The West German foreign minister succeeded in properly making allowances for Polish realities—for the situation of those in authority, for the political pluralism of the Polish community, for the interests of the apparatus of state government, and for the expectations of those who are in opposition against government policy. Minister Genscher succeeded where many Western politicians, including those from the FRG, have experienced difficulties.

He placed a wreath on the graves of the German soldiers fallen in World War I, paid a visit to the monastery of the martyr Father Maksymilian Kolbe, and received a group of Germans living in Poland. At the same time, he said that one should not forget the traumas of history when considering nationality questions.

All this is important because in Polish-German relations emotions still play a role that is significant enough to be taken into consideration if one wants to discuss mutual interests. But this role is not significant enough to make the search for common ground impossible. Over 40 years have passed since the end of the war, which is long enough to stop viewing the relations between Poles and Germans as a duel that can end victoriously for only one side. Attitudes toward Poland in the FRG have become differentiated a long time ago, and friendly and objective attitudes toward our nation are now more numerous than aversion and prejudice. It is true that pluralism can produce unpleasant results because it allows all views to be heard, including those unfriendly, and one must possess much common sense and self-control to see the true proportions and not to confuse that which is noisy with that which is important.

In Poland the process of the differentiation of attitudes toward Germans has been slightly different. This has been determined both by Poles' particular experience of history and by the political relations prevailing in the PPR. Many years had to pass by before the pluralism of views about the country's domestic affairs could voice themselves, but even more time had to go by before various views on the German question could develop and be expressed. Even when the myth of the "Poles' moral-political unity" was demolished, attempts to mobilize the Poles on the pretext that the German danger still exists did not cease. Of course, we do not doubt that the very principle of consensus on the basic issues of foreign policy is most desirable. As we know, this principle is being generally observed under conditions of parliamentary democracy. In Poland we all are freely agreed insofar as the issue of the Odra-Nysa border is concerned. Nor do any differences exist on this subject between the opposition and the government. Hans-Dietrich Genscher also noticed this agreement during his visit and asked his political friends and adversaries to take it into consideration.

Differentiated attitudes toward the Germans, which are especially obvious in our independent communities, have been possible only because at least an overwhelming majority of our people have lost a sense of there being a German threat. Only when that sense was lost did the attitude toward the German question cease to be a yardstick of one's patriotism. But, of course, this does not release anyone from their duty to think responsibly and prudently. The Germans in the FRG do not always appreciate the significance of this change and do not always realize that this change was possible only because the issue of the Odra-Nysa border has ceased to dominate Polish-West German relations. Every attempt to return to the discussion of borders endangers the differentiation of our attitudes and puts a question mark over the efforts of those who really want to achieve Polish-German reconciliation.

A peculiar disproportion has developed in Polish-German relations. Whereas in the first years after the conclusion of the normalization treaty official contacts were the order of the day, toward the end of the seventies the contacts between politicians began to lag far behind a dense network of private and semi-official acquaintances and ties. This is an unusual phenomenon if we consider that two states that are divided by the so-called iron curtain [zelazna kurtyna] are involved. Toward the end of the seventies Warsaw-Bonn relations not only could not keep abreast of the development of private relations, but even began to assume an unfavorable color against the background of the entire European policy. This became particularly obvious when in the Washington meeting the two superpowers established much higher standards of East-West dialogue. The stagnation of Polish-FRG relations began to be troublesome for everyone.

It is useless trying to find out how much either side is to blame for this. Both continue to feel the effects of such a state of affairs and both must put an end to it. Hans-Dietrich Genscher came to Warsaw to do this. His talks were to produce the hoped-for breakthrough in Polish-FRG relations and to make possible what the Germans term as "Neubeginn"—a new beginning or beginning something anew. We still do not know whether this goal has been achieved. The satisfaction displayed by the two sides concerns for the time being the so-called atmosphere of the talks. Three commissions have been entrusted the task to work out specific details, a task that produces the worst possible associations because "delegating issues to commissions" often amounts to "shelving them for an indefinite time." But it is a hopeful sign that the public was told what the commissions are to achieve and when. Around June or July they are expected to present draft documents ready for signing. Accords on setting up consulates general, on legally protecting the capital invested by investors, on scientific-technological cooperation, on establishing cultural institutes, and on other measures are expected to be signed. To make these accords a reality it is necessary to eliminate all obstacles once and for all and not for just a time. A basic settlement is necessary, one that will protect the two countries against the irritations they know from the past. Such a settlement calls for imagination and courage.

The two countries are able to do this. They have important reasons to make the necessary effort. The common European goals have unfortunately become hackneyed phrases, ones to which most people attach no specific meaning. This does not have to be so. If as a result of a new phase of detente the freedom of the maneuvers made by European states maneuvers increases, even if not to the same extent, relations among these states may change rather crucially. This change may amount to aggravating tensions that have not been able to come to a head with full force under the present conditions, but it

also may amount to an entirely new form of cooperation, one that provides for an increased border traffic of people, views, capital, and goods. If Europe is not to disintegrate into two zones differing in standards of civilized development and is not to be divided more effectively than the iron curtain is able to do it, all European states must make common efforts. Poland is especially interested in this. The FRG can also see its own interest in such a European program, in which it can play a particular role because of its economic potential.

In his book published a few years ago, Stanislaw Stomma convincingly demonstrated that Polish-German relations are not inevitably hostile. Today we need practical proof that these relations are not subject to inevitable distrust. Many people have proved this for their own private benefit. Everything is in favor of proving this in Polish-FRG political relations. Who knows, perhaps a propitious time for this is approaching.

PZPR Political Bureau on Economic Reform

LD022002 Warsaw PAP in English
1912 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] Warsaw, Feb. 2—The PUWP CC Political Bureau assessed today the socio-economic situation with particular stress put on concrete undertakings linked with the implementation of the 2nd stage of the reform.

The meeting recommended the tightening of requirements and acceleration of improvements in the functioning of these economic and administrative bodies which have direct influence on the conditions of society's life.

The Political Bureau obliged party authorities at different levels to see to efficient and consistent implementation of the tasks in reforming the economy.

OPZZ Examines Prices, Incomes, Inventors

AU021214 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
29 Jan 88 p 2

[Text] PAP—The OPZZ Executive Committee held a meeting in Warsaw on 28 January. The first part of the meeting examined the results of OPZZ-government talks on the subject of this year's prices and incomes policy. A report on this subject had caused numerous questions and comments, to which government representatives present at the meeting, including Deputy Premier Zbigniew Szalajda, gave replies. In the second part of the meeting, the OPZZ Executive Committee examined inventiveness by workers and discussed trade union tasks in developing it. The committee also examined a series of matters concerning internal organization.

Three weeks ago the OPZZ Council adopted a stance on prices and incomes and placed the OPZZ Secretariat under an obligation to hold negotiations with the government on this subject and inform the trade unions about the result. Waclaw Martyniuk, OPZZ deputy chairman, said that the negotiations had lasted several days, and that the report from these talks, which revealed a similarity of stances but not total unanimity, had been conveyed to the trade unions.

Several important details have now been added to this report. One of them is that the Z6,000 bonus payable to every employee in the state economy is going to be paid retroactively as of the day on which the price increases were announced, and that this bonus should be incorporated into basic pay no later than the end of April. The same applies to the increments which will bring the lowest wages in the state economy up to Z15,000 monthly.

The increases in family benefits, meant to be paid according to a new structure of financial thresholds, are 100% higher than the amount called for earlier on. These thresholds are to be established on the basis of 1987 incomes, in other words without taking into account the Z6,000 bonuses.

Basic deductions for factory social and housing funds will be adjusted according to the law on these funds, but the government has agreed that the average wage increases planned for this year should be taken into account when carrying out the adjustment. This would mean an extra deduction of Z3,000 per employee for social funds, and an extra Z1,500 per employee for housing funds.

The Polish National Bank has drafted rules for increasing the interest rates on savings accounts (for example, the interest on accounts that are tied up for 3 years would increase from 15 to 30%). As of 1 January this year, uniform interest rates are also to be applied to the bank accounts of social organizations, including trade unions.

The Ministry of Finance has said that payments out of 1987 profits can be made before balance-sheets have been checked.

It has been decided that, in the second half of the year, the government and trade unions will together analyze prices and incomes and make any necessary decisions concerning adjustments.

In view of the doubts raised by the Z6,000 wage bonus, Deputy Premier Szalajda said that this bonus should be paid by every enterprise, and that it will be free of surtax. He reaffirmed that the real level of wages and social benefits will be preserved. In the second half of the year, the effectiveness of the adopted solutions will be carefully examined jointly by the government and trade unions. He said that honest, partnerlike cooperation, based on mutual trust, is extremely important. The latest negotiations have shown that compromise between the government and the trade unions is possible. More than that, a compromise can also be achieved between society's expectations and the state's economic possibilities. Deputy Premier Szalajda suggested that working

contacts between the OPZZ and government be improved by means of lower-level meetings, at which one could already discuss the plans of decisions.

Alfred Miodowicz, OPZZ chairman, said that the negotiations with the government were constructive, effective, and characterized by mutual understanding. The trade unions have gained a lot. However, the talks are not finished, and there are matters to which one will have to return during cooperation with the government, matters such as the situation of old-age and invalidity pensioners, and people drawing family benefits, and the principles of taxing wages.

In the second half of the meeting, the Executive Committee discussed for the first time workers' inventiveness and the rationalization of work against the broader background of technological and organizational progress. The current state of affairs was considered unsatisfactory. It is not only responsible for the visible economic symptoms, but also the invisible social symptoms which give rise to bad conditions and poor safety at work. It was said that worker's inventiveness is starting to revive after the profound collapse at the beginning of the eighties. However, the declining number of workers and young people among the authors of designs is disturbing.

It was considered essential for the trade unions to be energetic sponsors of inventions. Not only should they provide moral support for inventors, but also exercise concern for proper wages, organize technical advice, and act as mediators between the inventor and the factory management. It was decided to carry out a thorough analysis of the state of technological progress and workers' inventiveness in connection with the mechanisms of the economic reform.

Communique on 1987 Economic Performance

LD021511 Warsaw PAP in English
0022 GMT 29 Jan 88

["GUS (GLOWNY Urzad Statystyczny—Statistical Main Office) Communique on Poland's Socio-Economic Situation in 1987 (Abridged)"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, Jan. 28—According to preliminary estimates the produced national income in 1987 (in constant prices) was approximately 2 percent higher than in 1986. The growth rate of the national income was lower than in 1986 (when a 4.9 percent growth rate was achieved and lower than the rate envisaged in the Central Annual Plan (a 3.0 percent growth was planned).

This low growth index of the national income was influenced by the fall of the net output in agriculture. Outside agriculture net material production grew by over 3 percent.

Produced national income per capita grew by approximately 1 percent in comparison with 1986.

The sold production of the socialized industry in constant realization prices grew by 3.3 percent. The output of the mining industry, which constituted 7.0 percent of overall industrial production, remained at the 1986 level while the output of the processing industry (93.0 percent of industrial production) grew by 3.5 percent.

In current realization prices sold production in the socialized industry was 30.8 percent higher with a 26.6 percent growth of realization prices.

The assumptions of the Central Annual Plan were achieved in 100.3 percent.

Sold production intended for the market (in constant realization prices) was over 2.0 percent higher than in 1986, for export goals it was about 5.0 percent higher while for material-technological supplies and remaining goals it was approximately 3.5 percent higher.

Labour productivity measured in terms of sold production (in constant realization prices) per one person employed was 3.8 percent higher in comparison with 1986.

In 1987 the global production of the construction industry was approximately 1 percent higher than in the preceding year. However, the basic production of socialized construction-assembly enterprises was 1.7 percent lower (in constant prices) in comparison with 1986. The goals of the Central Annual Plan were achieved in 94.8 percent.

Labour productivity, measures by the value of the basic production per one person employed in construction-assembly enterprises, grew by 0.6 percent in comparison with 1986.

Agriculture's global output (in constant prices) was approximately 3 percent lower than in the preceding year. At the same time it was about 4.5 percent higher than the average production in the 1982-86 period. In comparison with 1986 plant production fell by about 2 percent while animal production diminished by over 4 percent. The goals of the Central Annual plan in 1987 in terms of global agricultural production were realized in 97.6 percent.

Socialized transportation enterprises carried 1,128.8 million tonnes of cargo, that is 1.7 percent less than in the preceding year. The reduction in the amount of cargo carried took place in all sectors of transportation excluding pipelines and maritime shipping.

Foreign trade turnover (in constant prices) in 1987 was higher than in 1986. The high growth of the turnover in current prices calculated in zlotys resulted mainly from the increase in the foreign currency exchange rates.

Foreign trade turnover in 1987 with respect to the two currency areas was the following: in current prices—overall exports amounted to 3,228 billion zlotys, that is, it grew by 52.6 percent while imports totalled 2,868

billion zlotys—a growth of 64 percent. Exports to the socialist countries amounted to 10,939 million roubles (a growth rate of 5.9 percent) while imports totalled 10,545 million roubles (1.1 percent growth). Exports to the hard-currency countries amounted to 7,056 million U.S. dollars (8.4 percent growth) while imports reached the sum of 5,816 million dollars (7 percent growth).

In constant prices—exports calculated in zlotys grew by 4.6 percent and imports grew by 4.9 percent. Exports to the socialist countries (in roubles) increased by 4.7 percent with imports growing by 4.5 percent. Exports and imports to hard-currency countries (in U.S. dollars) grew by 4.4 and 5.3 percent respectively.

In the trade turnover with the socialist states the goals the Central Annual Plan were realized in exports in 101.1 percent and 102.9 percent in imports. [sentence as recieved]

Poland's debt in socialist states currencies grew from 6.5 billion roubles at the endof of december 1986 to 6.6 billion roubles at the end of November 1987. Credit interest payments during the first 11 months of the previous year amounted to 0.3 billion roubles in comparison with 0.2 billion roubles in the whole of 1986.

In the turnover with hard-currency countries target goals were surpassed in expoets by 7.7 percent and in imports by 10.1 percent. The terms of trade index with these countries was favourable for the third time running and totalled 102.2 (100.7 in 1986).

Poland's hard-currency debt grew from 33.5 billion U.S. dollars at the endo f December 1986 to 37.6 billion dollars at the end of November 1987 including an incrase of 2.9 billion dollars which resulted from the deprecieation of the dollar in 1987 in relation to other hard-currencies in which approximately 60 percent of Poland's hard-currency debt is expressed.

Investment outlays in the national economy (in current prices) amounted to 3.8 billion zlotys. In constant prices they were 5.6 percent higher in comparison with 1986. The Central Annual Plan was realized in 103 percent.

According to the National Bank of Poland the population's monetary incomes coming from socialized economic units amounted to 9,839 billion zlotys and were by 2,118 billion zlotys (27.4 percent) higher than in 1986. The population's expenditure amounted to 9,306 billion zlotys and was 30.3 percent higher than in 1986.

At the end of 1987 the population's monetary reserves amounted to 3,766 billion zlotys and were 534 billion zlotys higher (16.5 percent) than at the end of the preceding year.

Prices of consumer goods and services increased by 26 percent. While food prices grew by approximately 23 percent, prices of non-food products were about 26 percent higher in 1987 than in 1986. Alcohol prices jumped by about 29 percent.

According to estimates the average monthly wage per person employed in the socialized economy amounted to about 29.2 thousand zlotys—a growth of 5.1 thousand zlotys (approximately 21 percent) in comparison with 1986.

The average monthly current pension (farmers' pensions excluded) constituted 64.5 percent of the average monthly wage in the socialized economy while in 1986 the figure was 58.4 percent.

The increase of the prices of consumer goods and services in 1987 and the effects of the price changes conducted in 1986 caused that the indices of the costs of living crew by about 26 percent in families of persons employed in the socialized economy, by about 27 percent in old-age and disability pensioners' families and by approximately 25 percent in farmers' families.

More on Celebration of Ceausescu's Birthday

Media Coverage of Birthday

AU021645 [Editorial Report] Romanian media, in particular the press, give most extensive coverage to Ceausescu's 70th birthday, which is celebrated on 26 January. Beginning with 10 January, the Bucharest dailies SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian carry one or more articles a day, written by either journalists or leading cultural figures, as part of a series on this anniversary. As 26 January draws nearer, the dailies allocate more and more space to Ceausescu's "great merits in fashioning all aspects of modern Socialist Romania," his "peerless theoretical and practical work," and his foreign policy of "peace and disarmament throughout the world." Similar reports on laudatory articles published in the foreign press, as well as reports on the publication of books by or about Ceausescu abroad, are carried by both SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA, on an almost daily basis from 15 through 31 January.

Articles about Ceausescu begin appearing sporadically in both dailies around 10 January—after the conclusion of festivities devoted to Elena Ceausescu's birthday, celebrated on 7 January. These articles are mainly grouped under common headlines such as "Ideas and Theses From Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Innovative Thinking," in SCINTEIA, or "Basic Theses and Ideas From Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Social and Political Thinking, in ROMANIA LIBERA; under the latter headline, ROMANIA LIBERA on 13, 14, 16, and 18 January carries a series of articles by journalists and university professors on Ceausescu's "decisive influence" on all facets of Romania's domestic policy. These articles, averaging about 3,000 words, usually start on page one and continue on an inside page. They deal with such topics as: Ceausescu's "priceless contribution to improving the political, ideological, and educational activity" and "to perfecting the state's functions and increasing legality" in society; Ceausescu's theoretical and practical enhancement of the "role of the RCP as the advanced and revolutionary consciousness of the nation"; and Ceausescu's "masterly concept of running a homogeneous, uniform, balanced, and efficient economy on the basis of the latest achievements of science and technology."

The focus on Ceausescu's birthday itself begins with Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian on 15 January devoting almost half of its page 6, some 2,500 words, to a report on the publication in Beijing of the fifth volume of "Ceausescu-Selected Works" in Chinese. From that day on—through 24 January—both dailies dedicate two to four full pages of articles, reports, poems, and photographs—averaging some 10,000 words per issue—to Ceausescu's birthday anniversary. Under headlines such as "The Nicolae Ceausescu's Era, An Era of Great Achievements" or "Great Achievements in a Great Epoch," SCINTEIA on 19, 20, and 22 January devotes its entire page 3, some 6,000 words to articles and reports on various socioeconomic achievements "in the past 23 years, since Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu has been at the head of the party and state," effusively praising Ceausescu's merits in formulating the "scientific concept governing all facets of Romania's domestic policy." Other articles along these lines, averaging some 2,500 words per issue on pages 1 and 3 and written mainly by university professors, are grouped under common headlines such as "Outstanding Theoretical Work and Creative Synthesis of the Revolutionary Process of Socialist Construction," in SCINTEIA, and "Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Scientific and Profoundly Innovative Concept—At the Basis of Today's and Tomorrow's Achievements of Socialist Romania," in ROMANIA LIBERA.

Books by or about Ceausescu, launched in the PRC, Israel, England, Tunisia, Mexico, the United States, Turkey, India and Italy are given eulogistic reviews by both dailies, usually on page 6. Beginning with 21 January, the newspapers start carrying reports on various political, ideological, and cultural symposiums, meetings, and other events at local level throughout the country pegged to Ceausescu's birthday.

Under the common headline "President Nicolae Ceausescu, Brilliant Promoter of the Romanian Foreign Policy and Ardent Militant for a Better and More Just World," in SCINTEIA, and "The Nicolae Ceausescu Era, Years of Glorious Achievements," in ROMANIA LIBERA, from 19 January onward both dailies carry several articles—averaging 2,000 words per issue, starting on page 1 and continuing on an inside page—by regular commentators on Ceausescu's "foreign policy of peace in the service of the freedom and independence of nations." Examples include: "A Principled and Constructive Foreign Policy of Promoting Mankind's Great Ideals," by Corneliu Vlad in ROMANIA LIBERA of 20 January, dealing, among other things, with Romania's various international initiatives "to halt the dangerous course of the arms race" and "For a Europe of Peace and Full Security," by Dumitru Dinu in SCINTEIA of 19 January, stressing the need for "concrete steps" to ensure peace and security for all European nations."

As a preliminary to the next day's anniversary, SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian on 25 January already carry some headlines printed in red, such as "The Whole Nation's Love, Esteem, and Gratitude to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, Beloved Leader of the Party and Country," in SCINTEIA, or "Ardent Homage to the Great Hero," in ROMANIA LIBERA. They devote five out of six pages to various facets of Ceausescu's life and activity, including two full pages of reports on the proceedings of and on the papers read at the RCP Central Committee national solemn session on his birthday and the "Telegram Addressed to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu" by participants in this session. Under the same headline: "High and Lofty Honor for Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu," both dailies carry 1,000 to 1,800-word reports on the following nine major papers read at the party solemn session:

"The Decisive and Vital Role of the Party Secretary General and President of the Republic, in Building the Greatest and Most Fertile Era in the Fatherland's History, the Nicolae

Ceausescu Era—Socialist Romania's Golden Epoch of Glorious Achievements and Bright Prospects for the Socioeconomic Development of the Fatherland and Its Greater Prestige in the World," presented by Constantin Dascalescu, member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and prime minister of the government; "Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Concept on Further Strengthening the Leading Role of the Party as Vital Center of the Nation in the Great Work of Building the Comprehensively Developed Socialist Society and Ensuring Romania's Progress Toward Communism," presented by Emil Bobu, member of the PEC and secretary of the RCP Central Committee; "Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Monumental Social, Political, Economic, and Philosophical Work—A Brilliant Contribution to the Creative Development of the Treasure of Revolutionary Thinking and Practice and to the Enrichment of the Golden Foundation of the Romanian and Universal Intellectual Life," presented by Manea Manescu, member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and vice president of the State Council; "Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Decisive Role in More Than 55 Years of Heroic Patriotic Activity in Organizing and Leading the Romanian Revolutionary Process and in Building the Socialist and Communist Society in Our Fatherland," presented by Gheorghe Radulescu, member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and vice president of the State Council; "The New Agrarian Revolution—A Concept That Sums Up the RCP Experience in the Socialist Revolution and Construction and an Expression of the Renewing and Profoundly Scientific Action of the Party Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu," presented by Vasile Barbulescu, secretary of the RCP Central Committee; "Party Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's Concept on the Role of Science and Technology in Building the Comprehensively Developed Socialist Society—The Foundation of the Most Fruitful Years of Romanian Science," presented by Ion Ursu, candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and first vice chairman of the National Council for Science and Education; "The Flourishing of Education, Culture, and Art in the 'Nicolae Ceausescu Era'—An Expression of the Care Shown by the Party and Its Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu for the Comprehensive Fashioning of the New Man, With a High Patriotic Awareness and Developed Revolutionary Spirit, a Man Who Is Devoted to the Party and People and Is Consciously Building the New Society in Our Fatherland," presented by Suzana Gadea, candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and chairman of the Council for Socialist Culture and Education; "The Decisive Role of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu in Building an Original and Broadly Democratic System, One of a Kind, for the Participation of the Working People—in Their Capacity as Owners, Producers, and Consumers—in Running Society and Building Socialism With the People and For the People," presented by Miu Dobrescu, member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and chairman of the Central Council of the General Union of Romanian Trade Unions; and "The Nicolae Ceausescu Era, An Era of Brilliant International Assertion of Socialist Romania and of Its Foreign Policy Devoted To Promoting the Free and Independent Development of All Nations, Strengthening Peace and Cooperation Among Nations, Resolving Mankind's Complex Political and Socioeconomic Problems, and Building a Better and More Just World on Our Planet," presented by Ioan Totu, candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs. The above material, totaling some 14,000 words, contains profuse praise for the "beloved leader's outstanding contribution to formulating the strategy of Romania's comprehensive socioeconomic development," with emphasis on his industrialization policy "to ensure a faster growth rate of the means of production" for his "everlasting merits of renewing and revitalizing the revolutionary political thinking" and for his "consistent international policy of peace, disarmament, and free development for all nations."

Aside from the large number of articles and reports devoted to Ceausescu, various tables and figures showing Romania's all-round development, reports on statements of praise by Romanian working people and foreign dignitaries, and poems dedicated to the "symbol of the nation" and "the great hero among the nation's heroes," all the dailies preceding the anniversary itself also carry a large number of photographs and photographs of paintings of Ceausescu alone or with his wife among the people, delivering speeches, and at other events in the past. In this respect, worthy of note is a 5-by-6-inch photograph of a painting in SCINTEIA of 25 January page 4 representing an outsize, waving Ceausescu in the foreground, with blurred and diminutive mass crowds cheering in the background.

On 26 January, SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian publish a festive eight-page edition devoted almost entirely to Ceausescu (pp 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8). On the front page, the dailies display a heavily retouched photograph of Ceausescu (measuring 8 by 6 inches, in SCINTEIA, and 7 by 5 and 1/2 inches, in ROMANIA LIBERA) and carry the "Congratulatory Message of Homage Addressed to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu by the RCP Central Committee, the State Council, the Government of the SR of Romania, the Grand National Assembly and the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front" placed in a red box. The newspapers also carry on the inside pages Ceausescu's speech at the 25 January Bucharest "Solemn Meeting on Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's 70th Birthday and More Than 55 Years of Revolutionary Activity"; the "Decision-Decree of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee on Awarding Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP Secretary General and President of the SR of Romania, the Title of Supreme Honor 'Hero of the SR of Romania,' the 'Victory of Socialism' Order, and the Jubilee Medal"; a report on Ceausescu receiving the USSR Order of Lenin from the Soviet ambassador; and Ceausescu's speech on receiving birthday congratulations from the diplomatic corps accredited in Bucharest.

Among the most striking identical photographs displayed by the papers are: at the bottom of page 2, a large picture (measuring 15 by 8 inches in ROMANIA LIBERA and 15 by 8 and 1/2 inches in SCINTEIA) showing a vast crowd carrying hundreds of poster-portraits of Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu and dozens of banners bearing such scripts as "Many Happy Returns of the Day, Ceausescu"; "Our

Esteem and Pride, Ceausescu-Romania"; "Ceausescu-RCP"; and "Ceausescu and the Workers"; and on page 3, a picture (measuring 4 and 1/2 by 10 and 1/2 inches in SCINTEIA and 5 and 1/2 by 12 and 1/2 inches in ROMANIA LIBERA) showing a youthful Ceausescu standing alone in the center, flanked at some distance by Elena Ceausescu, Manea Manescu, and an unidentified person on Ceausescu's right and by Constantin Dascalescu, Emil Bobu, and Gheorghe Radulescu, on Ceausescu's left. Whereas in real life Ceausescu is shorter than any of the other leaders, in the picture he is shown to be very noticeably taller than all of them, even considering the perspective.

In addition to the extensive media coverage of Ceausescu's birthday in the days preceding the actual day, Bucharest SCINTEIA and ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian on 27 January devote almost the entire issue of 6 pages to celebrations, messages, and other Ceausescu activities on 26 January itself, namely "a visit to a national exhibition in his honor" in Bucharest and a speech he made at a "reception given by the RCP Central Committee, the State Council, and the Government of the SR of Romania" in his honor. Under the common headline "To the Great Hero of the Country—The Profound Homage and High Regard and Gratitude of the Whole Party and Nation," the dailies on 27 January carry on pages 2 and 4 reports on congratulatory messages to Ceausescu from central and local party-state and public bodies, as well as various scientific-cultural institutions throughout the country. From 28 through 31 January, both dailies will continue carrying such messages on their page 3. Under the common headline "Congratulatory Messages From Abroad Addressed to President Nicolae Ceausescu," from 27 January onward both dailies devote the entire page 3 to congratulatory telegrams from Communist, Western, and Third World parties, mass organizations, and prominent figures.

The Romanian dailies from 28 through 31 January continue to devote 3-4 pages of mostly identical material to birthday festivities, to Ceausescu's "priceless theoretical and practical work," to congratulatory messages from home and abroad, and to statements of praise from foreign dignitaries, accompanied by photographs and reproductions of paintings of Ceausescu on various unspecified occasions. Under various common headlines, SCINTEIA continues its series of about 2,000-word articles on Ceausescu's various "innovative concepts," almost on a daily basis. Articles such as "The New Man and the Revolutionary Humanism—Key Values of the Party Policy" by University Professor Doctor Petru Panzaru in SCINTEIA of 30 January pages 1 and 4 and "High Rate of Accumulation—Basic Guideline for Socialist Romania's Socioeconomic Development," by University Professor Doctor Mihai Paraluta in SCINTEIA of 31 January pages 1 and 2 emphasize the "originality and tenacity of the peerless concepts arising from Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu magnificent revolutionary thinking." Articles in the same vein are also carried by ROMANIA LIBERA, including an article by Ion Dudu Balan in the issue of 30 January pages 1 and 2, entitled "Founder of a New Era," dealing with Ceausescu's emphasis on the "role of the political-ideological activity" for developing the "patriotic socialist awareness" of the young generation.

Aside from such articles, the dailies continue to carry statistics on Romania's development in every sphere during the "glorious Nicolae Ceausescu Era," as well as reports on various festive events at home dedicated to this anniversary, statements of praise from home and abroad, and reports on the publication of further books by or about Ceausescu in foreign capitals.

In addition to the dailies' coverage through 31 January, totaling some 200,000 words, the weekly Bucharest LUMEA in Romanian No 4 on 21 January devotes about two thirds of the issue to Ceausescu's birthday. Under the general headline "Ceausescu-Romania-Peace" it carries 29 pages of pictures and articles by various Romanian journalists and public figures, about 30,000 words in all, on Ceausescu's domestic and foreign activity in recent years, praising his contribution to Romania's overall development. Included at various places within this feature there are 6 boxes, each bearing the headline "Clear Image in the Eyes of the World" and containing 32 brief quotations about Ceausescu's merits. These quotations are attributed, without mention of date or occasion, to various world figures—leaders of communist and other parties and organizations, heads of state and government, Third World leaders, ministers, the UN secretary general, and several monarchs, including the kings of Spain, Belgium, Jordan, Sweden, Nepal, and the Queen of Great Britain; other figures include Husni Mubarak, Yasir 'Arafat, al-'Asad, Richard Nixon, and Abba Eban.

Bucharest LUMEA in Romanian No 5 of 28 January devotes 14 pages, totaling some 20,000 words, to various birthday festivities as well as to his "brilliant revolutionary thinking and action for the flourishing of the socialist fatherland" and the latest foreign policy activities of the "great hero of peace, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu."

Bucharest Domestic Service also gives extensive coverage to this anniversary. It begins leading its main newscasts with reports on socioeconomic achievements and various political, educational, and cultural manifestations throughout the country "pegged to Ceausescu's forthcoming birthday anniversary" around 18 January. On 24, 25, and 26 January, virtually the whole program and every newscast deals mainly with countless festivities of homage organized by central and local party-state bodies and with various Ceausescu visits and speeches made on this occasion. After 26 January, Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian continues to lead several of its main casts, on a daily basis, with reports on domestic cultural-ideological events devoted to this anniversary and congratulatory cables to Ceausescu from home and abroad.

Dascalescu at Reception

AU020823 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 27 Jan 88 p 3

[Speech by Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu at a reception given in President Nicolae Ceausescu's honor by the RCP Central Committee, the State Council, and the Romanian Government on 26 January in Bucharest]

[Text] Today, with most ardent feelings of love and boundless appreciation, the whole country is celebrating your birthday and the more than 55 years of heroic revolutionary activity you have placed in the service of the party, the people, and the cause of socialism and peace.

In complete unity of thinking and feeling with the whole party and people, with deep respect and boundless gratitude, the Government of the SR of Romania extends to you warmest greetings and wishes for good health, happiness, a long life, and the inexhaustible power of work, for the well-being and prosperity of our nation and for the glory and greatness of Socialist Romania.

At this anniversary, with great respect and high esteem, we recall your whole revolutionary life and activity devoted with passion and self-denial to the supreme interest of the people; on this occasion we pay our highest homage to the hero among heroes and to the clear-sighted leader, who was designated by history to carry the destinies of the country toward the pinnacles of socialist and communist civilization.

The speaker further emphasized: Your illustrious personality is for all of us the symbol of ardent patriotism, of ceaseless revolutionary activity—carried out with wisdom and realism—and of a work full of self-denial devoted to the homeland and the party and to the greatest aspirations of mankind—socialism, peace, national independence, freedom, and social justice.

Much esteemed and beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, it is our historical opportunity to be your contemporaries and to witness the profound revolutionary changes that have taken place in our homeland in these victorious years of socialist and Communist construction.

Strongly inspired by the exceptional example of your heroic work and brilliant life, we assure you, at this solemn anniversary that we will continue to work with all our energy and capacity in order to implement your guidelines and recommendations in an exemplary way and fulfill the tasks incumbent on us, tasks included in the documents of the 13th RCP Congress and of the Party National Conference to raise Socialist Romania to new pinnacles of progress and civilization.

The achievements we obtain in our work are the most ardent homage we can pay to you and we extend to you the gratitude and thanks we owe to you for everything you have been doing and are doing for the well-being and happiness of our people.

We express our boundless pride and admiration for the determination, revolutionary pathos, boldness, and dynamism, with which you lead the homeland, the party, and the people, and for your great love for people. Much beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu and much esteemed Comrade Elena Ceausescu, we, together with the whole country, extend to you wishes for a long life, tireless energy of work, and good health for the everlasting glory of the Socialist Romania!

Much esteemed and beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, we extend to you wishes for "Many Happy Returns of the Day!"

Bobu Speech at Reception

AU012016 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 27 Jan 88 p 3

[Speech by Emil Bobu, member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and secretary of the RCP Central Committee, at a reception in honor of President Nicolae Ceausescu by the RCP Central Committee, the State Council, and the Romanian Government, on 26 January in Bucharest]

[Text] On this great national holiday, so dear to all of us—the Communists and the whole nation—on behalf of the Communists, the county party committees, organizations, and bodies, and on behalf of our party aktiv, on the occasion of your birthday and the anniversary of more than 55 years of heroic and constant revolutionary activity, allow me to pay an ardent and respectful homage to you—the hero among the heroes of the nation, outstanding leader of our party and state, and front-ranking militant of the international Communist and workers movement—for everything you have been doing and continue to do in order to ensure the strength and unity of our party, which is followed with complete confidence and boundless devotion by our whole nation.

Our whole party aktiv and all the Communists are greatly impressed by the magnificent achievements obtained in the period that followed the Ninth RCP Congress, a period that has been written in golden letters in the history of our homeland as the "Nicolae Ceausescu Era." All of us are aware of the fact that, this dear anniversary, the highest homage we can pay to you, with the greatest satisfaction, is to solemnly pledge to do all we can in order to ensure the constant increase of the role of the party as a political leader of the whole activity and to more broadly mobilize the working people to implement the historical decisions adopted by the 13th RCP Congress and the National Conference and fulfill the great and wonderful programs of the homeland's socioeconomic development.

Further the speaker said: Together with the country and the people, we are overwhelmed by the deepest feelings of admiration and gratitude for the example set by your life and activity and we extend to you, much esteemed and beloved Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, wishes for many happy years and for inexhaustible power of creative work, in order to stay at the helm of the party and of the destinies of our nation and lead us with the same clear-sightedness and brilliance on the glorious path of socialism and communism!

We extend to you wishes for many happy years, together with the much esteemed Comrade Elena Ceausescu and with all those who are close and dear to you!

From the bottom of our hearts, we extend to you wishes for "Many Happy Return of the Day, much beloved and esteemed leader!."

Plenca Calls Waldheim Commission Superficial

AU011418 Vienna KURIER in German 31 Jan 88 p 3

[Ljubomir Pajic report: "Plenca: Clearing Question of Guilt on the Spot"]

[Text] The Yugoslavian historian Dusan Plenca, 63, envisages the solution of the Waldheim case in a completely different way to that of the Historians' Commission that wants to probe into Kurt Waldheim's war past in its final report: "Only a court would be competent to pronounce Mr Waldheim guilty or to acquit him of the suspicion of war crime," he said. According to Plenca, the Commission remains superficial: "Up to this day the facts in the Yugoslavian Odluka (war files of the Yugoslavian commission for war crimes of 1948) have not been contested, and it calls Mr Waldheim a war criminal."

Plenca, the retired director of the Belgrade War Museum, rejects any personal evaluation: "People are continuously quoting me incorrectly. Never did I say that Mr Waldheim is a war criminal. I am just interested in contesting the scientific methods of the commission. I consider it a personal insult to invite me to Vienna for 1 or 2 days to answer questions. My country must have a commission member with equal rights, as the crimes Kurt Waldheim is charged with took place on Yugoslavian soil."

Dusan Plenca neither contests the credibility of the SPIEGEL document nor the fact that he found it in the course of his investigations in the archives of the so-called "independent state of Croatia." However, he denied the sale of the document.

In a previous declaration to the Yugoslavian news agency TANJUG, the historian Plenca said he "has no important document, but much data that confirms Kurt Waldheim's participation in the genocidal operations on Yugoslavian soil." In his opinion, this is the basis on which the possible responsibility of the present Austrian president has to be investigated, and therefore no decision can be taken at the moment. "The traces of Waldheim's activities should not only be sought in the big archives but, for example, in those of the military police. The Historians' Commission does not even know where Banja Luka is, and I believe the documentation should be checked there."

FRG Historian Looks for Waldheim Document

LD021442 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] "Although I did not find in Zagreb that very important document published in DER SPIEGEL, I am satisfied with the work I did at the Croatian archives. I have just been in contact with Belgrade where the original of this important piece of evidence is located, and if I obtain a favorable response I will immediately go there by plane to get a photocopy of the original key document on the activity of Mr Kurt Waldheim in Yugoslavia during WW II." This was stated by the West German historian Manfed Messerschmidt, a member of the international commission of historians, who is examining the wartime activities of Kurt Waldheim, in talks with the TANJUG editor in Zagreb, after an almost 3-hour stay at the Croatian archives, where he examined more than 100 documents.

Citizen Held in Chad Arrives in Paris

LD030918 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0100 GMT 3 Feb 88

[Text] Paris, February 2 (TANJUG)—After being kept in various camps in Chad for nearly five months, Yugoslav national Rade Zelenovic arrived in Paris this evening. He is to continue to Yugoslavia on Wednesday.

Zelenovic was "captured" by Chad troops on September 5 in the southern Libyan region of Sapir where he was working as an electromechanic for a West German firm. Until his release on Monday, Zelenovic was held prisoner first in Oudjanga [name as received] and later in the central prisoner camp in Ndjamena.

Initially the authorities did not believe that Zelenovic was a Yugoslav citizen and that he was working as an electrician. They declared him a Libyan spy.

After persistent interventions by the Yugoslav Government, and the aid of the diplomacies of France and the Federal Republic of Germany, Zelenovic was released yesterday for "humanitarian reasons" by a decree of Chadian President Hissein Habre. Zelenovic, 55, has a serious heart condition.

Sundic Commentary on Shultz Visit to Moscow

LD021856 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 2 Feb 88

[Text] In the foreign policy commentary, we talk about U.S. relations in light of George Shultz's visit to Moscow, which is to take place shortly. The existing relations between the two superpowers herald their further improvement. Here is a commentary by Milika Sundic:

[Sundic] The Moscow-Washington agreement that Shevardnadze and Shultz will meet 21-23 of this month leads one to conclude that nothing has changed in the timetable of negotiations between the two superpowers, in other words that everything remains as it was when Reagan and Gorbachev reached agreement at their third meeting in Washington on 7 December. Shultz and Shevardnadze will, in the first instance, have talks about the problem of reducing strategic nuclear missiles by 50%, something the two delegations are in any case having negotiations about in Geneva. The Geneva negotiations, in the assessment of both sides, are taking place in an atmosphere of intensified efforts to reach an agreement as soon as possible, which, of course, in no way means that everything will go smoothly, especially if one bears in mind the fact that the United States is not

giving up Star Wars, something which Moscow energetically opposes. However, it will probably have no effect on its readiness, after the signing of an agreement on the abolition of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, to achieve an agreement on strategic nuclear missiles as well.

Let us recall that Shultz's forthcoming visit to Moscow is directly connected to the preparations for the fourth U.S.-Soviet summit planned for the middle of the summer when, if everything goes as it should, Reagan and Gorbachev will sign an agreement on a 50% reduction in strategic nuclear missiles.

Along with consideration of the agreement on the reduction of strategic nuclear missiles, Shultz and Shevardnadze will also have talks on many other problems. This applies in the first instance to regional problems, something in which the United States is particularly interested, just as is the USSR, with the difference that the two countries do not hold the same view as to either their causes or the ways of eliminating existing flashpoints, such as the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, the Vietnamese intervention in Cambodia, the crisis in the Middle East, and the war in the Persian Gulf. In fact, during the meetings in Reykjavik and Washington, Reagan and Gorbachev did not agree in their assessments of current international problems, which leads one to conclude that the Moscow dialogue on regional problems will be very difficult, without significant prospects for the adoption of any kind of final decision.

True, the two superpowers are compelled to exchange views on crisis flashpoints frequently, so that, because of this, the possibility should not be excluded of a rapprochement in standpoints on some of them, for example on the Iraq-Iran conflict, which both countries are interested in seeing an end to, as is indicated by the fact that both voted for the Security Council resolution demanding the immediate cessation of hostilities. There are also good prospects that the Afghanistan problem might also be solved, which the United States could assist significantly, above all by ceasing to send arms to the Afghan rebels. However, as regards the situation in Central America or the Middle East, here, at least for the moment, the standpoints of the two countries remain unchanged. Reagan continues to insist on giving aid to the Nicaraguan contras and abhors the idea of the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East, while Moscow, for its part, insists both on the cessation of U.S. interference in Nicaragua's internal affairs and on the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. Nevertheless, regardless of everything that still divides Moscow and Washington, this will certainly not have a crucial impact on the process of their mutual rapprochement, and by this fact alone, nor will it have a crucial impact on the preparations for the fourth meeting beween Reagan an Gorbachev, which in any case is the basic aim of Shultz's forthcoming visit to Moscow.

Further Reportage on Mikulic's Visit to Italy

Ends Round of Talks With Goria

AU021414 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 29 Jan 88 p 1

[Manojlo Vukotic report: "New Stage in Neighbors' Cooperation"]

[Text] Rome, 28 Jan—We are among proven friends. We think that we have achieved a high level of bilateral relations and cooperation but that there was much greater opportunities and needs for these relations and cooperation to receive new impulses and broader dimensions. This is in the interest of peace and security in Europe and the world.

We are very pleased with the talks and results. At present, when Yugoslavia is going through an economic crisis, we are ready to support it. We want to help it. We do so with pleasure.

These two assessments made by Branko Mikulic and Giovanni Goria in a brief meeting with journalists immediately after their talks, which last for 2 and half hours, illustrate best the atmosphere and the direction of the dialogue that the two premiers held in the ancient Villa Pamfili this afternoon.

Brank Mikulic, president of the FEC, arrived in Italy this morning for a 2-day official visit, accompanied by Nenad Krekic, federal secretary for foreign trade, and Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs. This is the first visit by a Yugoslav premier in the last 20 years and is a return visit for the visit Bettino Craxi paid to Belgrade at the beginning of 1985.

Even the very first meeting of the two premiers in the villa's garden indicated that behind the negotiating table there would be two sincere, open friends ready to defend their own interests and views as well as to build a road toward mutual well-being based on good neighborliness and understanding. The wide scope of the questions—ranging from bilateral relations to the most topical international issues, the situation in the Mediterranean, and the quicker and more efficient tackling of questions concerning national minorities—revealed great similarity and unanimity of views.

The talks and interests centered on economic relations. Last year the value of trade between the two countries increased to 2.8 billion dinars. We are now entering a new, even richer and more fruitful phase. The two premiers' assistants prepared an important memorandum on economic cooperation in the next 3 years.

According to the established terms, Yugoslavia will receive aid amounting to almost $450 million. The loans that Yugoslavia will receive are offered under very favorable terms: 20 years bearing 1.75% interest.

Italy, currently well disposed to giving sincere help, will insist on the greater and more efficient placement of Yugoslav goods on the entire EC market, which is at present divided by many barriers.

In Villa Pamphili, Goria and Mikulic also discussed numerous international issues.

Talks about nuclear disarmament instil the hope and the belief that all peace-loving forces in the world will create conditions that will lead to the solution of problems that oppress the entire international community; this was stated by Mikulic in his toast during the luncheon. We think that the problem of international economic relations and the question of development are equally important. They represent a historic political challenge.

After the fruitful dialogue with his host, Yugoslavia's premier had a busy afternoon: He held talks with Francesco Cossiga, president of the Italian Republic, Giovanni Spadolini, president of the Senate, and Nilde Jotti, president of the Chamber of Deputies.

Tomorrow he will have a very interesting round of talks: He is expected to hold talks with the representatives of the very powerful association representing private industry. This talk will also be attended by a group of directors of some big Yugoslav enterprises. This meeting will test the ability and opportunities of our economy to link up with the representatives of the fifth strongest industrial country in the world.

Today, our work organization will sign four business agreements and an agreement on joint investments, Premier Mikulic announced.

On Saturday, Branko Mikulic will be received by the head of the Roman Catholic Church, Pope John Paul II.

Talks With Italian Businessmen

AU021553 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 30 Jan 88 p 1

[Neda Dragovic report: "Mikulic's Visit Opens New Chapter"]

[Text] Rome, 29 Jan—"I believe that the new Constitution will be adopted this fall. But it is thought that the amendment on joint ventures will be adopted earlier." (Branko Mikulic)

"The role of our foreign partners will not be restricted, they will be guaranteed in full the transfer of earnings, and will be able to autonomously decide on the entire policy of joint enterprises." (Nenad Krekic)

"The memorandum is the most important agreement between the Adriatic neighbors after the Osimo agreement. The agreement provides security and stimulates our much greater cooperation with Yugoslav enterprises." (Luigi Lucchini, president of the Confindustria)

"From tomorrow, Yugoslav and Italian businessmen will have no excuses for not strengthening their cooperation." (Renato Ruggiero, foreign trade minister)

In fact, these are the main points of the 2-hour talks held yesterday between the Yugoslav Government delegation and the Italian "shadow government," or the representatives of the mighty association of private industrialists. This marks the opening of a new chapter in economic and technological cooperation between Italy and Yugoslavia.

The Grand Hotel and 100 Representatives [subhead]

Or, as president of the FEC, Branko Mikulic, put it: "The agreements signed in Rome give a new impetus to economic and scientific-technological cooperation between Yugoslavia and Italy."

At the meeting held yesterday afternoon in the Grand Hotel, Branko Mikulic, president of the FEC, and Nenad Krekic, federal secretary for foreign trade, accompanied by Renato Ruggiero held talks with more than 100 representatives of Italian and Yugoslav firms. There were representatives from Fiat, INA, Plava Laguna, Montedison, PKB, IRI (the largest state-owned firm in Italy), Olivetti, Rade Koncar, Agrofina, Obod....

There was unusually great interest among Italian and Yugoslav businessmen for new deals.

"I have not attended such an eminent gathering of Yugoslav businessmen for some time, even in Yugoslavia," Mikulic remarked with a smile. He answered questions, listened to problems, and confirmed that the two neighboring countries had agreed to form a joint Yugoslav-Italian bank (in order to jointly appear in third markets).

"If there is a question mark hanging over the industrial zone in Trieste, as somebody here said, I am in favor of the two governments discussing alternatives," Mikulic replied to a question raised by a businessman from Udine.

The president of the FEC especially stressed be great prospects in the two countries cooperation in the sphere of food. Italy imports $11 billion worth of food a year (second item in the budget, immediately after oil) while Yugoslavia's participation in these imports amounts to only 2%.

But yesterday, the PKB work organization and Agrofina had already signed a cooperation agreement. So did Rade Koncar and Olivetti, INA and Montedison, the Tito metallurgical institute and IMI, and Obod and Iberna.

Non-Protocol Meetings [subhead]

In fact, this was the main business event on the second day of Mikulic's official visit to Italy. The association of private industry, representing about 110,000 firms, has been

responsible for a renaissance, and last year made Italy officially rank fifth among industrial powers in the world (behind the United States, Japan, the FRG, and France).

Later at a press conference, Mikulic described his 2-day talks in Rome as very open [otvoren], as they should be, considering the degree of our friendship.

Outside the protocol, at the request of the Socialist Party and the PCI, Mikulic received separately a delegation of socialists led by Bettino Craxi, and a PCI delegation led by Alessandro Natta. This morning, Mikulic laid flowers on the tomb of the unknown hero, and then visited the town hall where he held talks with Mayor Signorella.

Nonaligned, Developing Countries To Meet

AU011628 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 31 Jan 88 p 2

[TANJUG report: "Consultative Meeting of Nonaligned Countries in Casablanca"]

[Text] United Nations, 30 Jan—The second consultative meeting of nonaligned countries and developing countries will be held from 22 to 24 February in Casablanca, in Morocco.

At the meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Countries in New York, where this decision was made, it was also decided that a ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Countries devoted to disarmament would be held from 28 to 30 May. This meeting has been set aside for preparations for the third special session of the General Assembly on Disarmament which will be held in New York this summer.

BORBA Calls For Public Agrokomerc Trial

AU021236 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 25 Jan 88 p 1

[Zeljko Vukovic article: "In Connection With the Quandary of the Public Prosecutor of Bosnia-Hercegovina on Whether the Trial of Fikret Abdic Should Be Public: Truth Must Be Voiced Publicly"]

[Text] Tomo Vukicevic, public prosecutor of Bosnia-Hercegovina, in his recent statement to Sarajevo VECERNJE NOVINE, brought to light a dilemma that the public never thought existed: whether the trial of Fikret Abdic and other actors in the Agrokomerc affair should be public or secret. According to him, nothing specific can be said about this at present. Only after the trial starts will the bench decide whether the public should be excluded.

The very broaching of this dilemma, considering the circumstances and events that have accompanied the clarification of the Agrokomerc affair, causes further perplexity. As for legal provisions, everything is clear and nothing is clear. Article 288 of the Criminal Procedure Law provides for a secret trial "if it is necessary in order to protect secrets, to ensure public order, morals, or interests of minors, and to protect other special benefits of the social community." If the bench decides to exclude the public, it must explain and publicly proclaim its decision, but appeals against such a decision can be lodged only in case of an appeal against the sentence.

The articles of the law obviously leave considerable opportunities open for excluding the public from the court during a trial. The only question is what, in the case of Agrokomerc and the criminal charges against the accused, should be hidden from the public. It is a fact that the unusually great interest in the trial of Fikret Abdic is, above all, a consequence of the silence kept by the respective republican and federal organs and officials after numerous questions about their responsibility for the Velika Kladusa combine case, and this leads to the possibility that a possible decision on the exclusion of the public may be seen by the public as a wish or a desire to avoid a public repetition of these questions. Let us recall, it is not disputed that as early as April of last year the most responsible people in Bosnia-Hercegovina and in the federation knew about the Agrokomerc raid on the payments system of our country, but nobody reacted. It has not yet been clarified for what reason and for whose sake this did not happen. A result is, among other things, a delegate question in the SFRY Assembly about Branko Mikulic's personal responsibility for the affair.

Fikret Abdic's testimony at a recent trial of three managers for their signing of a harmful contract clearly shows that he will not shirk from mentioning in his defense all those officials with whom he collaborated, consulted, or from whom he received moral or material support. After all, the public has been counting on this for a long time. It is up to the bench to determine, on the basis of arguments and known facts, whether Abdic will unjustly and maliciously involve some officials in the affair while trying to save his own head. It seems that such a possible move by Fikret Abdic should not be a reason for a secret trial. It would mean that the public is not sufficiently mature, despite the stand by the bench.

It is not to be excluded that the creator of Agrokomerc's rise and fall will request that some officials appear in court as witnesses. The appearance of such witnesses would be a precedent of a special kind. It would do nothing but benefit a society that sees democratization as the only way out of the general crisis. If the background to the Agrokomerc affair cannot be explained without explanations and statements by the most responsible officials, even in the court, there is no reason why these should be avoided.

If the trial of Fikret Abdic is secret, that, of course, must not be interpreted as a desire to avoid having responsible people from political life appear in court. However, one certainly has to expect such an interpretation.

While the dilemma on whether the main hearing will be closed to the public lasts, one can talk only about reasons that warn about the consequences of "emptying" the court hall. One will be able to talk about the reasons why the trial is closed to the public only if the bench of the Bihac Supreme Court makes such a decision. This "empty space" allows for various and not-quite innocent guesswork, which cannot be ignored, although it is just guesswork. There had been guesswork and suspicion about the Agrokomerc affair for years, and now we know what had been going on there.

The entire country now suffers from the consequences.

Prosecutors Deny BORBA Report

AU021444 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 28 Jan 88 p 13

[M.C. report: "Public Trial of Fikret Abdic"]

[Text] Sarajevo, 27 Jan—Today, Sarajevo OSLOBODJENJE denied reports carried by BORBA and VECERNJE NOVOSTI 2 days ago that mention the possibility that the trial of Fikret Abdic, former president of the Agrokomerc managing board, will be secret. According to OSLOBODJENJE, people in the Bosnia-Hercegovina Public Prosecutor's Office are surprised that there has been such an announcement and energetically deny the possibility of a secret trial. Desa Jevdjevic, acting republican public prosecutor, even said that that was the first time she had heard such a thing and categorically claimed that such an assumption is unfounded. Tomo Vukicevic, Bihac public prosecutor, denied that he had made such a statement to journalists. According to OSLOBODJENJE, he did talk with two journalists, but the specific trial was not mentioned on the occasion. They talked about the articles of the law that envisage excluding the public from the main hearing.

He also denied there is any dilemma which would be "motivated by the need that the highest officials also appear in court as witnesses." OSLOBODJENJE concludes that the denials issued by the Republican Public Prosecutor's Office and the Bihac Public Prosecutor's Office have removed dilemmas concerning the forthcoming trial of Fikret Abdic in which there is great interest by the public. The main hearing will be public, because there are no legal reasons for closing the trial to the public, the Sarajevo daily asserts.

Proposals for Covering Debts

AU011710 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Jan 88 p 10

[TANJUG report: "A Tax on Incomes and Revenue"]

[Text] Sarajevo, 26 Jan—Once half its debts have been written off by the creditors, the cost of the "party" called Agrokomerc, which amounted to the sum of 176.8 billion dinars, could, according to a Republican Executive Council proposal, be paid through the sale of Agrokomerc's buildings and non-essential fixed assets and through the collection of outstanding debts for work done on public projects. This would secure 106.4 billion dinars. The rest would be provided by pooling a part of banks' funds amounting to approximately 20 billion dinars per year for the next 3 years and then by setting up a solidarity fund at the republican level. This would mean using part of the republican national bank's surplus revenue and a special tax on personal incomes of employees for up to 3 years.

However, not even this is enough. Therefore, the introduction of a special republican tax on the income of associated labor organizations is being considered. The fate of these proposals will be known on 28 January when they will be discussed by Republican Assembly delegates at a meeting in Sarajevo.